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By the Council for Ready Infrastructure and Committee on Transportation and Representative Russell

A bill to be entitled An act relating to transportation; amending s. 20.23, F.S.; revising language with respect to the organization of the department; deleting responsibilities assigned to the secretary; providing that the secretary or his or her designee shall submit a report on major actions at each meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission; revising language with respect to assistant secretaries; creating the Office of Comptroller; deleting language with respect to the inspector general and comptroller; changing the Turnpike District into a turnpike enterprise; giving the Secretary of Transportation the authority to exempt the turnpike enterprise from department policies, procedures, and standards; giving the secretary authority to promulgate rules that will assist the turnpike enterprise in using best business practices; amending s. 110.205, F.S.; correcting cross references, to conform; amending s. 189.441, F.S.; removing an exemption to s. 287.055, F.S.; amending s. 206.46, F.S.; revising language with respect to the State Transportation Trust Fund; increasing the debt service cap; amending s. 255.20, F.S.; exempting certain transportation projects for certain competitive bidding requirements; amending s. 287.005, F.S.; increasing the amount defining a continuing contract; amending s. 311.07, F.S.; adding seaport security

projects to the types of projects eligible for 1 2 these funds; exempting seaport security 3 projects from matching requirements; amending 4 s. 311.09, F.S.; directing seaports to abide by the provisions of s. 287.055, F.S., related to 5 6 competitive negotiation; amending s. 316.302, 7 F.S.; revising a date concerning commercial motor vehicles to conform to federal 8 regulations; amending s. 316.3025, F.S.; 9 updating a cross reference to federal trucking 10 regulations; amending s. 316.515, F.S.; 11 12 deleting a requirement for a department permit 13 with respect to the height of automobile 14 transporters; amending s. 316.535, F.S.; adding 15 weight requirements for certain commercial trucks; amending s. 316.545, F.S.; correcting a 16 cross reference; amending s. 330.27, F.S.; 17 revising definitions relating to aviation; 18 providing definitions; amending s. 316.650, 19 20 F.S.; requiring the issuance of a copy of the Traffic School Reference Guide with traffic 21 citations; amending s. 318.14, F.S.; deleting 22 reference to a restriction on the number of 23 24 elections a person may make to attend a basic 25 driver improvement course; amending s. 26 318.1451, F.S.; providing an assessment fee 27 with respect to driver improvement courses for 28 persons who are ordered by the court to attend 29 and for certain other violations; amending s. 322.0261, F.S.; deleting reference to a time 30 31 period and increasing the amount of damage

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30 31 required with respect to a crash for the screening of certain crash reports; creating s. 322.02615, F.S.; providing for mandatory driver improvement courses for certain violations; amending s. 322.05, F.S.; adding a condition for the issuance of a driver's license to certain persons; amending s. 330.29, F.S.; clarifying the department's rulemaking authority with respect to airports; amending s. 330.30, F.S.; eliminating airport license fees; revising language with respect to the department's site approval process; eliminating on-site inspections of private airports; creating a registration process for private airports; providing conditions; deleting obsolete language; providing exceptions; amending s. 330.35, F.S.; deleting obsolete language with respect to airport zoning; amending s. 330.36, F.S.; providing conditions under which municipalities may prohibit or otherwise regulate seaplanes; amending s. 332.004, F.S.; adding off-airport noise mitigation projects to the projects eligible for federal and state matching funds; amending s. 334.044, F.S.; authorizing the department to expend promotional money on scenic highway projects; authorizing the department to delegate its drainage permitting responsibilities to other governmental entities under certain circumstances; amending s. 334.193, F.S.; providing for employee bidding

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by department employees; amending s. 334.30, F.S.; clarifying existing program for public-private transportation projects; deleting requirement for legislative approval except for projects requiring more than \$50 million from the State Transportation Trust Fund; specifying notice and selection requirements for projects under this section; allowing Internal Revenue Service Code chapter 63-20 corporations to participate in these public-private transportation projects; providing conditions for using loans from Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund; deleting obsolete language; creating s. 335.066, F.S.; creating the Safe Paths to Schools Program; directing the department to establish the program and to authorize establishment of a grant program for purposes of funding the program; authorizing the department to adopt rules to administer the program; amending s. 335.141, F.S.; eliminating the requirement that the department regulate all train speeds; amending s. 336.12, F.S.; creating process for homeowners' associations to be conveyed roads and rights-of-way abandoned by a county governing board for the purpose of converting a subdivision to a gated neighborhood; amending s. 336.41, F.S.; clarifying that a contract already qualified by the Department of Transportation is presumed qualified to bid on county road projects; amending s. 336.44, F.S.;

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replacing the term "competent" with "responsible bidder"; amending s. 337.107, F.S.; authorizing the department to enter into design-build contracts that include right-of-acquisition services; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; raising the cap on certain contracts into which the department can enter without first obtaining bids; adding enhancement projects to the types of projects that can be combined into a design-build contract; specifying that construction on design-build projects may not begin until certain conditions have been met; amending s. 337.14, F.S.; clarifying that contractors qualified by the Department of Transportation are presumed qualified to bid on projects for expressway authorities; amending s. 337.401, F.S.; providing that for projects on public roads or rail corridors under the department's jurisdiction, a utility relocation schedule and relocation agreement may be executed in lieu of a written permit; amending s. 339.08, F.S.; clarifying language with respect to the use of moneys in the State Transportation Trust Fund; amending s. 339.12, F.S.; providing that local governments which perform projects for the department are reimbursed promptly; specifying that certain counties that use revenues from a 1-cent local option sales tax for state transportation improvement projects not be penalized by receiving fewer state

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transportation funds; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; conforming language with respect to the tentative work program; conforming a reference to the turnpike district; amending s. 339.137, F.S.; revising definitions; amending criteria for program eligibility; directing the advisory council to develop methodology for ranking and prioritizing project proposals; directing the Florida Transportation Commission to review the proposed project list before submittal to the Legislature; amending s. 341.051, F.S.; deleting obsolete language; amending s. 341.302, F.S.; deleting language requiring the department to perform certain railroad regulation tasks which are federal responsibilities; amending s. 348.0003, F.S.; giving a county governing body authority to set qualifications, terms of office, and obligations for the members of expressway authorities within their jurisdictions; amending ss. 348.0012, 348.754, 348.7543, 348.7544, 348.7545, 348.755, and 348.765, F.S.; giving the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority the ability to issue bonds, rather than issuance through the state Division of Bond Finance; amending s. 373.4137, F.S.; allowing transportation authorities created pursuant to chs. 348 and 349, F.S., to create environmental impact inventories and participate in a mitigation program to offset adverse impacts caused by their transportation

1 projects; amending s. 475.011, F.S.; granting 2 exemption from Florida licensing for certain 3 firms or their employees under contract with 4 the state or a local governmental entity to 5 provide right-of-way acquisition services for property subject to condemnation; amending s. 6 7 479.15, F.S.; revising language with respect to 8 harmony of regulations concerning lawfully erected signs; creating s. 479.25, F.S.; 9 authorizing local governments to enter into 10 11 agreements which allow outdoor signs to be erected above sound barriers; creating s. 12 13 70.20, F.S.; creating process for governmental 14 entities and sign owners to enter into 15 relocation and reconstruction agreements 16 related to outdoor advertising signs; providing for just compensation to sign owners under 17 certain conditions; amending s. 496.425, F.S.; 18 redefining the term "facility"; creating s. 19 20 496.4256, F.S.; providing that a governmental 21 entity or authority that owns or operates 22 welcome centers, wayside parks, service plazas, or rest areas on the state highway system are 23 24 not required to issue a permit to, or grant access to, any person for the purpose of 25 26 soliciting funds; repealing s. 316.3027, F.S.; 27 relating to identification requirements on 28 certain commercial motor vehicles; amending s. 29 337.408, F.S.; revising language with respect to the regulation of benches, transit shelters, 30 31 and waste disposal receptacles within

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rights-of-way; providing for regulation of street light poles; amending s. 380.0651, F.S.; excluding certain wholesaling facilities from development-of-regional-impact review; deleting provision which provides the development-of-regional-impact statewide guidelines and standards for airports; deleting provision which provides for certain residential developments located in one county to be treated as located in an adjacent less populated county; amending s. 768.28, F.S.; providing that certain operators of rail services and providers of security for rail services are agents of the state for certain purposes; providing for indemnification; repealing s. 316.610(3), F.S.; relating to certain inspections of certain commercial motor vehicles; amending s. 337.025, F.S.; eliminating cap on innovative highway projects for the turnpike enterprise; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; providing an exemption for a turnpike enterprise project; amending s. 338.22, F.S.; redesignating the Florida Turnpike Law as the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law; amending s. 338.221, F.S.; redefining the term "economically feasible" as used with respect to turnpike projects; creating s. 338.2215, F.S.; providing legislative findings, policy, purpose, and intent for the Florida Turnpike Enterprise; creating s. 338.2216, F.S.; prescribing the power and authority of

1 the turnpike enterprise; amending s. 338.223, 2 F.S.; increasing the maximum loan amount for the turnpike enterprise; amending ss. 338.165 3 4 and 338.227, F.S.; conforming provisions; 5 amending s. 338.2275, F.S.; authorizing the turnpike enterprise to advertise for bids for 6 7 contracts prior to obtaining environmental 8 permits; amending s. 338.234, F.S.; authorizing the turnpike enterprise to expand business 9 opportunities; amending s. 338.235, F.S.; 10 11 authorizing the consideration of goods instead 12 of fees; amending s. 338.239, F.S.; providing 13 that approved expenditure to the Florida 14 Highway Patrol be paid by the turnpike 15 enterprise; amending s. 338.241, F.S.; lowering 16 the required cash reserve for the turnpike enterprise; amending s. 338.251, F.S.; 17 conforming provisions; amending s. 553.80, 18 F.S.; providing for self-regulation; amending 19 20 s. 333.06, F.S.; requiring each licensed 21 publicly owned and operated airport to prepare 22 an airport master plan; providing notice to affected local governments with respect 23 24 thereto; amending s. 380.06, F.S., relating to developments of regional impact; removing the 25 26 rebuttable presumptions with respect to 27 application of the statewide guidelines and 28 standards; removing provisions which specify 29 that certain changes in airport facilities or increases in the storage capacity for chemical 30 31 or petroleum storage facilities constitute a

substantial deviation and require further development-of-regional-impact review; exempting certain proposed facilities for the storage of any petroleum product from development-of-regional-impact requirements; amending ss. 163.3180 and 331.303, F.S.; correcting references; providing application with respect to airports and petroleum storage facilities which have received a development-of-regional-imapct development order, or which have an application for development approval or notification of proposed change pending, on the effective date of the act; providing for severability; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 20.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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20.23 Department of Transportation.--There is created a Department of Transportation which shall be a decentralized agency.

(1)(a) The head of the Department of Transportation is the Secretary of Transportation. The secretary shall be appointed by the Governor from among three persons nominated by the Florida Transportation Commission and shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate. The secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

 $\frac{(b)^2}{2}$. The secretary shall be a proven, effective administrator who by a combination of education and experience

shall clearly possess a broad knowledge of the administrative, financial, and technical aspects of the development, operation, and regulation of transportation systems and facilities or comparable systems and facilities.

(b)1. The secretary shall employ all personnel of the department. He or she shall implement all laws, rules, policies, and procedures applicable to the operation of the department and may not by his or her actions disregard or act in a manner contrary to any such policy. The secretary shall represent the department in its dealings with other state agencies, local governments, special districts, and the Federal Government. He or she shall have authority to sign and execute all documents and papers necessary to carry out his or her duties and the operations of the department. At each meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission, the secretary shall submit a report of major actions taken by him or her as official representative of the department.

2. The secretary shall cause the annual department budget request, the Florida Transportation Plan, and the tentative work program to be prepared in accordance with all applicable laws and departmental policies and shall submit the budget, plan, and program to the Florida Transportation Commission. The commission shall perform an in-depth evaluation of the budget, plan, and program for compliance with all applicable laws and departmental policies. If the commission determines that the budget, plan, or program is not in compliance with all applicable laws and departmental policies, it shall report its findings and recommendations regarding such noncompliance to the Legislature and the Governor.

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(c)3. The secretary shall provide to the Florida Transportation Commission or its staff, such assistance, information, and documents as are requested by the commission or its staff to enable the commission to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

(d)(c) The secretary shall appoint two three assistant secretaries who shall be directly responsible to the secretary and who shall perform such duties as are specified in this section and such other duties as are assigned by the secretary. The secretary may delegate to any assistant secretary the authority to act in the absence of the secretary. The department has the authority to adopt rules necessary for the delegation of authority beyond the assistant secretaries. The assistant secretaries shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary.

(e) (d) Any secretary appointed after July 5, 1989, and the assistant secretaries shall be exempt from the provisions of part III of chapter 110 and shall receive compensation commensurate with their qualifications and competitive with compensation for comparable responsibility in the private sector. When the salary of any assistant secretary exceeds the limits established in part III of chapter 110, the Governor shall approve said salary.

- (2)(a)1. The Florida Transportation Commission is hereby created and shall consist of nine members appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate. Members of the commission shall serve terms of 4 years each.
- Members shall be appointed in such a manner as to equitably represent all geographic areas of the state. Each member must be a registered voter and a citizen of the state.

 Each member of the commission must also possess business managerial experience in the private sector.

- 3. A member of the commission shall represent the transportation needs of the state as a whole and may not subordinate the needs of the state to those of any particular area of the state.
- 4. The commission is assigned to the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation for administrative and fiscal accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise function independently of the control and direction of the department.
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} (b) & The commission shall have the primary functions to: \end{tabular}$
- 1. Recommend major transportation policies for the Governor's approval, and assure that approved policies and any revisions thereto are properly executed.
- 2. Periodically review the status of the state transportation system including highway, transit, rail, seaport, intermodal development, and aviation components of the system and recommend improvements therein to the Governor and the Legislature.
- 3. Perform an in-depth evaluation of the annual department budget request, the Florida Transportation Plan, and the tentative work program for compliance with all applicable laws and established departmental policies. Except as specifically provided in s. 339.135(4)(c)2., (d), and (f), the commission may not consider individual construction projects, but shall consider methods of accomplishing the goals of the department in the most effective, efficient, and businesslike manner.

- 4. Monitor the financial status of the department on a regular basis to assure that the department is managing revenue and bond proceeds responsibly and in accordance with law and established policy.
- 5. Monitor on at least a quarterly basis, the efficiency, productivity, and management of the department, using performance and production standards developed by the commission pursuant to s. 334.045.
- 6. Perform an in-depth evaluation of the factors causing disruption of project schedules in the adopted work program and recommend to the Legislature and the Governor methods to eliminate or reduce the disruptive effects of these factors.
- 7. Recommend to the Governor and the Legislature improvements to the department's organization in order to streamline and optimize the efficiency of the department. In reviewing the department's organization, the commission shall determine if the current district organizational structure is responsive to Florida's changing economic and demographic development patterns. The initial report by the commission must be delivered to the Governor and Legislature by December 15, 2000, and each year thereafter, as appropriate. The commission may retain such experts as are reasonably necessary to effectuate this subparagraph, and the department shall pay the expenses of such experts.
- (c) The commission or a member thereof may not enter into the day-to-day operation of the department and is specifically prohibited from taking part in:
 - 1. The awarding of contracts.
- 2. The selection of a consultant or contractor or the prequalification of any individual consultant or contractor.

 However, the commission may recommend to the secretary standards and policies governing the procedure for selection and prequalification of consultants and contractors.

- 3. The selection of a route for a specific project.
- 4. The specific location of a transportation facility.
- 5. The acquisition of rights-of-way.
- 6. The employment, promotion, demotion, suspension, transfer, or discharge of any department personnel.
- 7. The granting, denial, suspension, or revocation of any license or permit issued by the department.
- (d)1. The chair of the commission shall be selected by the commission members and shall serve a 1-year term.
- 2. The commission shall hold a minimum of 4 regular meetings annually, and other meetings may be called by the chair upon giving at least 1 week's notice to all members and the public pursuant to chapter 120. Other meetings may also be held upon the written request of at least four other members of the commission, with at least 1 week's notice of such meeting being given to all members and the public by the chair pursuant to chapter 120. Emergency meetings may be held without notice upon the request of all members of the commission. At each meeting of the commission, the secretary or his or her designee shall submit a report of major actions taken by him or her as official representative of the department.
- 3. A majority of the membership of the commission constitutes a quorum at any meeting of the commission. An action of the commission is not binding unless the action is taken pursuant to an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present, but not fewer than four members of the

commission at a meeting held pursuant to subparagraph 2., and the vote is recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

- 4. The chair shall cause to be made a complete record of the proceedings of the commission, which record shall be open for public inspection.
- (e) The meetings of the commission shall be held in the central office of the department in Tallahassee unless the chair determines that special circumstances warrant meeting at another location.
- (f) Members of the commission are entitled to per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061.
- (g) A member of the commission may not have any interest, direct or indirect, in any contract, franchise, privilege, or other benefit granted or awarded by the department during the term of his or her appointment and for 2 years after the termination of such appointment.
- (h) The commission shall appoint an executive director and assistant executive director, who shall serve under the direction, supervision, and control of the commission. The executive director, with the consent of the commission, shall employ such staff as are necessary to perform adequately the functions of the commission, within budgetary limitations. All employees of the commission are exempt from part II of chapter 110 and shall serve at the pleasure of the commission. The salaries and benefits of all employees of the commission shall be set in accordance with the Selected Exempt Service; provided, however, that the commission shall have complete authority for fixing the salary of the executive director and assistant executive director.
- (i) The commission shall develop a budget pursuant to chapter 216. The budget is not subject to change by the

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department, but such budget shall be submitted to the Governor along with the budget of the department.

(3)(a) The central office shall establish departmental policies, rules, procedures, and standards and shall monitor the implementation of such policies, rules, procedures, and standards in order to ensure uniform compliance and quality performance by the districts and central office units that implement transportation programs. Major transportation policy initiatives or revisions shall be submitted to the commission for review. The central office monitoring function shall be based on a plan that clearly specifies what areas will be monitored, activities and criteria used to measure compliance, and a feedback process that assures monitoring findings are reported and deficiencies corrected. The secretary is responsible for ensuring that a central office monitoring function is implemented, and that it functions properly. In conjunction with its monitoring function, the central office shall provide such training and administrative support to the districts as the department determines to be necessary to ensure that the department's programs are carried out in the most efficient and effective manner.

(b) The resources necessary to ensure the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of performance by the department of its statutory responsibilities shall be allocated to the central office.

(b)(c) The secretary shall appoint an Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and Transportation Policy and Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration, and an Assistant Secretary for District Operations, each of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The positions are responsible 31 | for developing, monitoring, and enforcing policy and managing

major technical programs. The responsibilities and duties of 1 these positions include, but are not limited to, the following 2 3 functional areas: 4 1. Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy. --5 a. Development of the Florida Transportation Plan and 6 other policy planning; 7 b. Development of statewide modal systems plans, 8 including public transportation systems; c. Design of transportation facilities; 9 10 d. Construction of transportation facilities; 11 e. Acquisition and management of transportation 12 rights-of-way; and 13 f. Administration of motor carrier compliance and 14 safety. 15 2. Assistant Secretary for District Operations. -a. Administration of the eight districts; and 16 b. Implementation of the decentralization of the 17 18 department. 19 3. Assistant Secretary for Finance and 20 Administration. --21 a. Financial planning and management; 22 b. Information systems; c. Accounting systems; 23 24 d. Administrative functions; and 25 e. Administration of toll operations. 26 (d)1. Policy, program, or operations offices shall be 27 established within the central office for the purposes of: 28 a. Developing policy and procedures and monitoring 29 performance to ensure compliance with these policies and procedures; 30 31

1 b. Performing statewide activities which it is more 2 cost-effective to perform in a central location; 3 c. Assessing and ensuring the accuracy of information 4 within the department's financial management information 5 systems; and 6 d. Performing other activities of a statewide nature. 7 1.2. The following offices are established and shall 8 be headed by a manager, each of whom shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The positions shall be 9 classified at a level equal to a division director: 10 The Office of Administration; 11 a. b. The Office of Policy Planning; 12 13 c. The Office of Design; d. The Office of Highway Operations; 14 e. The Office of Right-of-Way; 15 16 f. The Office of Toll Operations; g. The Office of Information Systems; and 17 h. The Office of Motor Carrier Compliance; 18 i. The Office of Management and Budget; and 19 20 j. The Office of Comptroller. 2.3. Other offices may be established in accordance 21 22 with s. 20.04(7). The heads of such offices are exempt from part II of chapter 110. No office or organization shall be 23 created at a level equal to or higher than a division without 24

specific legislative authority.

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shared access to the transportation project being constructed. The assistance program shall be in the form of additional guarantees to assist the impacted business entity in receiving loans pursuant to Title 13 C.F.R. part 120. However, in no instance shall the combined guarantees be greater than 90 percent of the loan. The department shall adopt rules to implement this subparagraph.

(e) The Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration must possess a broad knowledge of the administrative, financial, and technical aspects of a complete cost-accounting system, budget preparation and management, and management information systems. The Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration must be a proven, effective manager with specialized skills in financial planning and management. The Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration shall ensure that financial information is processed in a timely, accurate, and complete manner.

(f)1. Within the central office there is created an Office of Management and Budget. The head of the Office of Management and Budget is responsible to the Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration and is exempt from part II of chapter 110.

2. The functions of the Office of Management and Budget include, but are not limited to:

a. Preparation of the work program;

b. Preparation of the departmental budget; and

c. Coordination of related policies and procedures.

3. The Office of Management and Budget shall also be responsible for developing uniform implementation and monitoring procedures for all activities performed at the district level involving the budget and the work program.

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 $\underline{\text{(c)}(g)}$ The secretary $\underline{\text{shall}}$ $\underline{\text{may}}$ appoint an inspector general $\underline{\text{pursuant to s. 20.055}}$ who shall be directly responsible to the secretary and shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary.

(h)1. The secretary shall appoint an inspector general pursuant to s. 20.055. To comply with recommended professional auditing standards related to independence and objectivity, the inspector general shall be appointed to a position within the Career Service System and may be removed by the secretary with the concurrence of the Transportation Commission. In order to attract and retain an individual who has the proven technical and administrative skills necessary to comply with the requirements of this section, the agency head may appoint the inspector general to a classification level within the Career Service System that is equivalent to that provided for in part III of chapter 110. The inspector general may be organizationally located within another unit of the department for administrative purposes, but shall function independently and be directly responsible to the secretary pursuant to s. 20.055. The duties of the inspector general shall include, but are not restricted to, reviewing, evaluating, and reporting on the policies, plans, procedures, and accounting, financial, and other operations of the department and recommending changes for the improvement thereof, as well as performing audits of contracts and agreements between the department and private entities or other governmental entities. The inspector general shall give priority to reviewing major parts of the department's accounting system and central office monitoring function to determine whether such systems effectively ensure accountability and compliance with all laws, rules, policies, and procedures applicable to the operation of the department.

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The inspector general shall also give priority to assessing the department's management information systems as required by s. 282.318. The internal audit function shall use the necessary expertise, in particular, engineering, financial, and property appraising expertise, to independently evaluate the technical aspects of the department's operations. The inspector general shall have access at all times to any personnel, records, data, or other information of the department and shall determine the methods and procedures necessary to carry out his or her duties. The inspector qeneral is responsible for audits of departmental operations and for audits of consultant contracts and agreements, and such audits shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing standards. The inspector general shall annually perform a sufficient number of audits to determine the efficiency and effectiveness, as well as verify the accuracy of estimates and charges, of contracts executed by the department with private entities and other governmental entities. The inspector general has the sole responsibility for the contents of his or her reports, and a copy of each report containing his or her findings and recommendations shall be furnished directly to the secretary and the commission.

2. In addition to the authority and responsibilities herein provided, the inspector general is required to report to the:

a. Secretary whenever the inspector general makes a preliminary determination that particularly serious or flagrant problems, abuses, or deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the department have occurred. The secretary shall review and assess the

correctness of the preliminary determination by the inspector general. If the preliminary determination is substantiated, the secretary shall submit such report to the appropriate committees of the Legislature within 7 calendar days, together with a report by the secretary containing any comments deemed appropriate. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the public disclosure of information which is specifically prohibited from disclosure by any other provision of law.

b. Transportation Commission and the Legislature any actions by the secretary that prohibit the inspector general from initiating, carrying out, or completing any audit after the inspector general has decided to initiate, carry out, or complete such audit. The secretary shall, within 30 days after transmission of the report, set forth in a statement to the Transportation Commission and the Legislature the reasons for his or her actions.

(i)1. The secretary shall appoint a comptroller who is responsible to the Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration. This position is exempt from part II of chapter 110.

2. The comptroller is the chief financial officer of the department and must be a proven, effective administrator who by a combination of education and experience clearly possesses a broad knowledge of the administrative, financial, and technical aspects of a complex cost-accounting system.

The comptroller must also have a working knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles. At a minimum, the comptroller must hold an active license to practice public accounting in Florida pursuant to chapter 473 or an active license to practice public accounting in any other state. In

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addition to the requirements of the Florida Fiscal Accounting Management Information System Act, the comptroller is responsible for the development, maintenance, and modification of an accounting system that will in a timely manner accurately reflect the revenues and expenditures of the department and that includes a cost-accounting system to properly identify, segregate, allocate, and report department costs. The comptroller shall supervise and direct preparation of a detailed 36-month forecast of cash and expenditures and is responsible for managing cash and determining cash requirements. The comptroller shall review all comparative cost studies that examine the cost-effectiveness and feasibility of contracting for services and operations performed by the department. The review must state that the study was prepared in accordance with generally accepted cost-accounting standards applied in a consistent manner using valid and accurate cost data.

- 3. The department shall by rule or internal management memoranda as required by chapter 120 provide for the maintenance by the comptroller of financial records and accounts of the department as will afford a full and complete check against the improper payment of bills and provide a system for the prompt payment of the just obligations of the department, which records must at all times disclose:
- a. The several appropriations available for the use of the department $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$
- b. The specific amounts of each such appropriation budgeted by the department for each improvement or purpose;
- c. The apportionment or division of all such

 appropriations among the several counties and districts, when

 such apportionment or division is made;

1 d. The amount or portion of each such apportionment 2 against general contractual and other liabilities then 3 created; 4 e. The amount expended and still to be expended in 5 connection with each contractual and other obligation of the department; 6 7 f. The expense and operating costs of the various 8 activities of the department; 9 g. The receipts accruing to the department and the 10 distribution thereof; 11 h. The assets, investments, and liabilities of the 12 department; and 13 i. The cash requirements of the department for a 14 36-month period. 15 4. The comptroller shall maintain a separate account for each fund administered by the department. 16 5. The comptroller shall perform such other related 17 duties as designated by the department. 18 19 (d)(j) The secretary shall appoint a general counsel who shall be employed full time and shall be directly 20 responsible to the secretary and shall serve at the pleasure 21 22 of the secretary. The general counsel is responsible for all legal matters of the department. The department may employ as 23 many attorneys as it deems necessary to advise and represent 24 25 the department in all transportation matters. 26 (e) $\frac{k}{k}$ The secretary shall appoint a state 27 transportation planner who shall report to the Assistant 28 Secretary for Transportation Policy. The state transportation 29 planner's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited

to, policy planning, systems planning, and transportation

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statistics. This position shall be classified at a level equal to a deputy assistant secretary.

(f)(1) The secretary shall appoint a state highway engineer who shall report to the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy. The state highway engineer's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to, design, construction, and maintenance of highway facilities; acquisition and management of transportation rights-of-way; traffic engineering; and materials testing. This position shall be classified at a level equal to a deputy assistant secretary.

(g)(m) The secretary shall appoint a state public transportation administrator who shall report to the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy. The state public transportation administrator's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to, the administration of statewide transit, rail, intermodal development, and aviation programs. This position shall be classified at a level equal to a deputy assistant secretary. The department shall also assign to the public transportation administrator an organizational unit the primary function of which is to administer the high-speed rail program.

(4)(a) The operations of the department shall be organized into <u>seven</u> <u>eight</u> districts, <u>including a turnpike</u> district, each headed by a district secretary, and a turnpike <u>enterprise</u>, headed by an executive director. The district secretaries shall report to the Assistant Secretary for <u>District Operations</u>. The headquarters of the districts shall be located in Polk, Columbia, Washington, Broward, Volusia, Dade, <u>and</u> Hillsborough, and <u>Leon</u> Counties. <u>The headquarters of the turnpike enterprise shall be located in Orange County. The turnpike enterprise shall be located in Orange County. The</u>

turnpike district must be relocated to Orange County in the year 2000. In order to provide for efficient operations and to expedite the decisionmaking process, the department shall provide for maximum decentralization to the districts. However, before making a decision to centralize or decentralize department operations or relocate the turnpike district, the department must first determine if the decision would be cost-effective and in the public's best interest. The department shall periodically evaluate such decisions to ensure that they are appropriate.

- (b) The primary responsibility for the implementation of the department's transportation programs shall be delegated by the secretary to the district secretaries, and sufficient authority shall be vested in each district to ensure adequate control of the resources commensurate with the delegated responsibility. Each district secretary shall also be accountable for ensuring their district's quality of performance and compliance with all laws, rules, policies, and procedures related to the operation of the department.
- (c) Each district secretary may appoint a district director for planning and programming, a district director for production, and a district director for operations. These positions are exempt from part II of chapter 110.
- (d) Within each district, offices shall be established for managing major functional responsibilities of the department. The offices may include planning, design, construction, right-of-way, maintenance, and public transportation. The heads of these offices shall be exempt from part II of chapter 110.
- (e) The district director for the Fort Myers Urban
 Office of the Department of Transportation is responsible for

developing the 5-year Transportation Plan for Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties. The Fort Myers Urban Office also is responsible for providing policy, direction, local government coordination, and planning for those counties.

- (f)1. The responsibility for the turnpike system shall be delegated by the secretary to the executive director of the turnpike enterprise, who shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The executive director shall report directly to the secretary, and the turnpike enterprise shall operate pursuant to ss. 338.22-338.241.
- 2. To facilitate the most efficient and effective management of the turnpike enterprise, including the use of best business practices employed by the private sector, the secretary shall have the authority to exempt the turnpike enterprise from departmental policies, procedures, and standards.
- 3. To maximize the turnpike enterprise's ability to use best business practices employed by the private sector, the secretary shall have the authority to promulgate rules which exempt the turnpike enterprise from department rules and authorize the turnpike enterprise to employ procurement methods available to the private sector.
- (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 110.205, the Department of Management Services is authorized to exempt positions within the Department of Transportation which are comparable to positions within the Senior Management Service pursuant to s. 110.205(2)(i) or positions which are comparable to positions in the Selected Exempt Service under s. 110.205(2)(1).

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(6) To facilitate the efficient and effective management of the department in a businesslike manner, the department shall develop a system for the submission of monthly management reports to the Florida Transportation Commission and secretary from the district secretaries. The commission and the secretary shall determine which reports are required to fulfill their respective responsibilities under this section. A copy of each such report shall be submitted monthly to the appropriations and transportation committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Recommendations made by the Auditor General in his or her audits of the department that relate to management practices, systems, or reports shall be implemented in a timely manner. However, if the department determines that one or more of the recommendations should be altered or should not be implemented, it shall provide a written explanation of such determination to the Legislative Auditing Committee within 6 months after the date the recommendations were published.

- $\underline{(6)}$ (7) The department is authorized to contract with local governmental entities and with the private sector if the department first determines that:
- (a) Consultants can do the work at less cost than state employees;
- (b) State employees can do the work at less cost, but sufficient positions have not been approved by the Legislature as requested in the department's most recent legislative budget request;
- (c) The work requires specialized expertise, and it would not be economical for the state to acquire, and then maintain, the expertise after the work is done;

- The workload is at a peak level, and it would not be economical to acquire, and then keep, extra personnel after the workload decreases; or
- (e) The use of such entities is clearly in the public's best interest.

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Such contracts shall require compliance with applicable federal and state laws, and clearly specify the product or service to be provided.

Section 2. Paragraphs (i) and (l) of subsection (2) of section 110.205, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

110.205 Career service; exemptions.--

- (2) EXEMPT POSITIONS. -- The exempt positions which are not covered by this part include the following, provided that no position, except for positions established for a limited period of time pursuant to paragraph (h), shall be exempted if the position reports to a position in the career service:
- (i) The appointed secretaries, assistant secretaries, deputy secretaries, and deputy assistant secretaries of all departments; the executive directors, assistant executive directors, deputy executive directors, and deputy assistant executive directors of all departments; and the directors of all divisions and those positions determined by the department to have managerial responsibilities comparable to such positions, which positions include, but are not limited to, program directors, assistant program directors, district administrators, deputy district administrators, the Director of Central Operations Services of the Department of Children and Family Services, and the State Transportation Planner, State Highway Engineer, State Public Transportation 31 Administrator, district secretaries, district directors of

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30 31 planning and programming, production, and operations, and the managers of the offices specified in s. 20.23(3)(b)1.(d)2., of the Department of Transportation. Unless otherwise fixed by law, the department shall set the salary and benefits of these positions in accordance with the rules of the Senior Management Service.

(1) All assistant division director, deputy division director, and bureau chief positions in any department, and those positions determined by the department to have managerial responsibilities comparable to such positions, which positions include, but are not limited to, positions in the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Family Services, and the Department of Corrections that are assigned primary duties of serving as the superintendent or assistant superintendent, or warden or assistant warden, of an institution; positions in the Department of Corrections that are assigned primary duties of serving as the circuit administrator or deputy circuit administrator; positions in the Department of Transportation that are assigned primary duties of serving as regional toll managers and managers of offices as defined in s. $20.23(3)(b)2.\frac{(d)3.}{and}(4)(d)$; positions in the Department of Environmental Protection that are assigned the duty of an Environmental Administrator or program administrator; those positions described in s. 20.171 as included in the Senior Management Service; and positions in the Department of Health that are assigned the duties of Environmental Administrator, Assistant County Health Department Director, and County Health Department Financial Administrator. Unless otherwise fixed by law, the department shall set the salary and benefits of these positions in

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accordance with the rules established for the Selected Exempt Service.

Section 3. Section 189.441, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

189.441 Contracts.--Contracts for the construction of projects and for any other purpose of the authority may be awarded by the authority in a manner that will best promote free and open competition, including advertisement for competitive bids; however, if the authority determines that the purposes of this act will be more effectively served thereby, the authority may award or cause to be awarded contracts for the construction of any project, including design-build contracts, or any part thereof, or for any other purpose of the authority upon a negotiated basis as determined by the authority. Each contractor doing business with the authority and required to be licensed by the state or local general-purpose governments must maintain the license during the term of the contract with the authority. The authority may prescribe bid security requirements and other procedures in connection with the award of contracts which protect the public interest. Section 287.055 does not apply to the selection of professional architectural, engineering, landscape architectural, or land surveying services by the authority or to the procurement of design-build contracts. The authority may, and in the case of a new professional sports franchise must, by written contract engage the services of the operator, lessee, sublessee, or purchaser, or prospective operator, lessee, sublessee, or purchaser, of any project in the construction of the project and may, and in the case of a new professional sports franchise must, provide in the 31 contract that the lessee, sublessee, purchaser, or prospective

lessee, sublessee, or purchaser, may act as an agent of, or an 1 2 independent contractor for, the authority for the performance 3 of the functions described therein, subject to the conditions and requirements prescribed in the contract, including 4 5 functions such as the acquisition of the site and other real property for the project; the preparation of plans, 6 7 specifications, financing, and contract documents; the award 8 of construction and other contracts upon a competitive or 9 negotiated basis; the construction of the project, or any part thereof, directly by the lessee, purchaser, or prospective 10 11 lessee or purchaser; the inspection and supervision of 12 construction; the employment of engineers, architects, 13 builders, and other contractors; and the provision of money to 14 pay the cost thereof pending reimbursement by the authority. Any such contract may, and in the case of a new professional 15 16 sports franchise must, allow the authority to make advances to or reimburse the lessee, sublessee, or purchaser, or 17 prospective lessee, sublessee, or purchaser for its costs 18 incurred in the performance of those functions, and must set 19 20 forth the supporting documents required to be submitted to the authority and the reviews, examinations, and audits that are 21 22 required in connection therewith to assure compliance with the 23 contract.

Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 206.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

206.46 State Transportation Trust Fund. --

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(2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, from the revenues deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund a maximum of 7 percent in each fiscal year shall be transferred into the Right-of-Way Acquisition and Bridge Construction Trust Fund created in s. 215.605, as needed to

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meet the requirements of the documents authorizing the bonds issued or proposed to be issued under ss. 215.605 and 337.276 or at a minimum amount sufficient to pay for the debt service coverage requirements of outstanding bonds. Notwithstanding the 7 percent annual transfer authorized in this subsection, the annual amount transferred under this subsection shall not exceed an amount necessary to provide the required debt service coverage levels for a maximum debt service not to exceed\$200\$135 million. Such transfer shall be payable primarily from the motor and diesel fuel taxes transferred to the State Transportation Trust Fund from the Fuel Tax Collection Trust Fund.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 255.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

255.20 Local bids and contracts for public construction works; specification of state-produced lumber .--

(1) A county, municipality, special district as defined in chapter 189, or other political subdivision of the state seeking to construct or improve a public building, structure, or other public construction works must competitively award to an appropriately licensed contractor each project that is estimated in accordance with generally accepted cost-accounting principles to have total construction project costs of more than \$200,000. For electrical work, local government must competitively award to an appropriately licensed contractor each project that is estimated in accordance with generally accepted cost-accounting principles to have a cost of more than \$50,000. As used in this section, the term "competitively award" means to award contracts based on the submission of sealed bids, proposals submitted in 31 response to a request for proposal, proposals submitted in

response to a request for qualifications, or proposals submitted for competitive negotiation. This subsection expressly allows contracts for construction management services, design/build contracts, continuation contracts based on unit prices, and any other contract arrangement with a private sector contractor permitted by any applicable municipal or county ordinance, by district resolution, or by state law. For purposes of this section, construction costs include the cost of all labor, except inmate labor, and include the cost of equipment and materials to be used in the construction of the project. Subject to the provisions of subsection (3), the county, municipality, special district, or other political subdivision may establish, by municipal or county ordinance or special district resolution, procedures for conducting the bidding process.

- (a) The provisions of this subsection do not apply:
- 1. When the project is undertaken to replace, reconstruct, or repair an existing facility damaged or destroyed by a sudden unexpected turn of events, such as an act of God, riot, fire, flood, accident, or other urgent circumstances, and such damage or destruction creates:
 - a. An immediate danger to the public health or safety;
- b. Other loss to public or private property which requires emergency government action; or
- c. An interruption of an essential governmental service.
- 2. When, after notice by publication in accordance with the applicable ordinance or resolution, the governmental entity does not receive any responsive bids or responses.
- 30 3. To construction, remodeling, repair, or improvement to a public electric or gas utility system when such work on

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the public utility system is performed by personnel of the system.

- To construction, remodeling, repair, or improvement by a utility commission whose major contracts are to construct and operate a public electric utility system.
- 5. When the project is undertaken as repair or maintenance of an existing public facility.
- When the project is undertaken exclusively as part of a public educational program.
- 7. When the funding source of the project will be diminished or lost because the time required to competitively award the project after the funds become available exceeds the time within which the funding source must be spent.
- 8. When the local government has competitively awarded a project to a private sector contractor and the contractor has abandoned the project before completion or the local government has terminated the contract.
- 9. When the governing board of the local government, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under s. 286.011 and finds by a majority vote of the governing board that it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment. The public notice must be published at least 14 days prior to the date of the public meeting at which the governing board takes final action to apply this subparagraph. The notice must identify the project, the estimated cost of the project, and specify that the purpose for the public meeting is to consider whether it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using the local government's own services, employees, and equipment. In deciding whether it is in the public's best 31 interest for local government to perform a project using its

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own services, employees, and equipment, the governing board may consider the cost of the project, whether the project requires an increase in the number of government employees, an increase in capital expenditures for public facilities, equipment or other capital assets, the impact on local economic development, the impact on small and minority business owners, the impact on state and local tax revenues, whether the private sector contractors provide health insurance and other benefits equivalent to those provided by the local government, and any other factor relevant to what is in the public's best interest.

- 10. When the governing board of the local government determines upon consideration of specific substantive criteria and administrative procedures that it is in the best interest of the local government to award the project to an appropriately licensed private sector contractor according to procedures established by and expressly set forth in a charter, ordinance, or resolution of the local government adopted prior to July 1, 1994. The criteria and procedures must be set out in the charter, ordinance, or resolution and must be applied uniformly by the local government to avoid award of any project in an arbitrary or capricious manner. This exception shall apply when all of the following occur:
- a. When the governing board of the local government, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under s. 286.011 and finds by a two-thirds vote of the governing board that it is in the public's best interest to award the project according to the criteria and procedures established by charter, ordinance, or resolution. The public notice must be published at least 14 days prior to the date of the public 31 | meeting at which the governing board takes final action to

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apply this subparagraph. The notice must identify the project, the estimated cost of the project, and specify that the purpose for the public meeting is to consider whether it is in the public's best interest to award the project using the criteria and procedures permitted by the preexisting ordinance.

- In the event the project is to be awarded by any b. method other than a competitive selection process, the governing board must find evidence that:
- There is one appropriately licensed contractor who is uniquely qualified to undertake the project because that contractor is currently under contract to perform work that is affiliated with the project; or
- (II) The time to competitively award the project will jeopardize the funding for the project, or will materially increase the cost of the project or will create an undue hardship on the public health, safety, or welfare.
- c. In the event the project is to be awarded by any method other than a competitive selection process, the published notice must clearly specify the ordinance or resolution by which the private sector contractor will be selected and the criteria to be considered.
- In the event the project is to be awarded by a method other than a competitive selection process, the architect or engineer of record has provided a written recommendation that the project be awarded to the private sector contractor without competitive selection; and the consideration by, and the justification of, the government body are documented, in writing, in the project file and are presented to the governing board prior to the approval 31 required in this paragraph.

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11. To projects subject to chapter 336.

Section 6. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section 287.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.055 Acquisition of professional architectural, engineering, landscape architectural, or surveying and mapping services; definitions; procedures; contingent fees prohibited; penalties .--

- (2) DEFINITIONS.--For purposes of this section:
- (q) A "continuing contract" is a contract for professional services entered into in accordance with all the procedures of this act between an agency and a firm whereby the firm provides professional services to the agency for projects in which construction costs do not exceed\$1 million 14 \$500,000, for study activity when the fee for such professional service does not exceed\$50,000\$25,000, or for work of a specified nature as outlined in the contract required by the agency, with no time limitation except that the contract must provide a termination clause.

Section 7. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of section 311.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

311.07 Florida seaport transportation and economic development funding .--

(3)(a) Program funds shall be used to fund approved projects on a 50-50 matching basis with any of the deepwater ports, as listed in s. 403.021(9)(b), which is governed by a public body or any other deepwater port which is governed by a public body and which complies with the water quality provisions of s. 403.061, the comprehensive master plan requirements of s. 163.3178(2)(k), the local financial management and reporting provisions of part III of chapter 31 218, and the auditing provisions of s. 11.45(3)(a)5. Program

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funds also may be used by the Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council to develop with the Florida Trade Data Center such trade data information products which will assist Florida's seaports and international trade.

- (b) Projects eligible for funding by grants under the program are limited to the following port facilities or port transportation projects:
- Transportation facilities within the jurisdiction of the port.
- The dredging or deepening of channels, turning basins, or harbors.
- The construction or rehabilitation of wharves, 3. docks, structures, jetties, piers, storage facilities, cruise terminals, automated people mover systems, or any facilities necessary or useful in connection with any of the foregoing.
- The acquisition of container cranes or other mechanized equipment used in the movement of cargo or passengers in international commerce.
- The acquisition of land to be used for port purposes.
- The acquisition, improvement, enlargement, or 6. extension of existing port facilities.
- Environmental protection projects which are necessary because of requirements imposed by a state agency as a condition of a permit or other form of state approval; which are necessary for environmental mitigation required as a condition of a state, federal, or local environmental permit; which are necessary for the acquisition of spoil disposal sites and improvements to existing and future spoil sites; or which result from the funding of eligible projects listed 31 herein.

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- Transportation facilities as defined in s. 8. 334.03(31) which are not otherwise part of the Department of Transportation's adopted work program.
- 9. Seaport intermodal access projects identified in the 5-year Florida Seaport Mission Plan as provided in s. 311.09(3).
- 10. Construction or rehabilitation of port facilities as defined in s. 315.02, excluding any park or recreational facilities, in ports listed in s. 311.09(1) with operating revenues of \$5 million or less, provided that such projects create economic development opportunities, capital improvements, and positive financial returns to such ports.
- 11. Seaport security projects identified pursuant to s. 311.12. Seaport security projects are not subject to the matching fund requirements of paragraph (a).

Section 8. Subsection (12) of section 311.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 311.09 Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council. --
- (12) Members of the council shall serve without compensation but are entitled to receive reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061. council may elect to provide an administrative staff to provide services to the council on matters relating to the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program and the council. The cost for such administrative services shall be paid by all ports that receive funding from the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program, based upon a pro rata formula measured by each recipient's share of the funds as compared to the total funds 31 disbursed to all recipients during the year. The share of

costs for administrative services shall be paid in its total amount by the recipient port upon execution by the port and the Department of Transportation of a joint participation agreement for each council-approved project, and such payment is in addition to the matching funds required to be paid by the recipient port. Except as otherwise exempted by law, all moneys derived from the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program shall be expended in accordance with the provisions of s. 287.057. Seaports subject to competitive negotiation requirements of a local governing body shall abide by the provisions of s. 287.055 be exempt from this requirement.

Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 316.302, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.302 Commercial motor vehicles; safety regulations; transporters and shippers of hazardous materials; enforcement.--

(1)

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, all owners or drivers of commercial motor vehicles that are engaged in intrastate commerce are subject to the rules and regulations contained in 49 C.F.R. parts 382, 385, and 390-397, with the exception of 49 C.F.R. s. 390.5 as it relates to the definition of bus, as such rules and regulations existed on October 1, 2000 March 1, 1999.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 316.3025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.3025 Penalties.--

(3)(a) A civil penalty of \$50 may be assessed for a violation of 49 C.F.R. s. $390.21 \frac{\text{s. } 316.3027}{\text{s. }}$.

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Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 316.515, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.515 Maximum width, height, length.--

(2) HEIGHT LIMITATION. -- No vehicle may exceed a height of 13 feet 6 inches, inclusive of load carried thereon. However, an automobile transporter may, with a permit from the Department of Transportation, measure a height not to exceed 14 feet, inclusive of the load carried thereon.

Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 316.535, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (7), present subsection (7) is renumbered as subsection (8) and amended, and a new subsection (6) is added to said section to read:

316.535 Maximum weights.--

(6) Dump trucks, concrete mixing trucks, trucks engaged in waste collection and disposal, and fuel oil and gasoline trucks designed and constructed for special type work or use, when operated as a single unit, shall be subject to all safety and operational requirements of law, except that any such vehicle need not conform to the axle spacing requirements of this section provided that such vehicle shall be limited to a total gross load, including the weight of the vehicle, of 20,000 pounds per axle plus scale tolerances and shall not exceed 550 pounds per inch width tire surface plus scale tolerances. No vehicle operating pursuant to this section shall exceed a gross weight, including the weight of the vehicle and scale tolerances, of 70,000 pounds. Any vehicle violating the weight provisions of this section shall be penalized as provided in s. 316.545.

(7)(6) The Department of Transportation shall adopt rules to implement this section, shall enforce this section 31 and the rules adopted hereunder, and shall publish and

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distribute tables and other publications as deemed necessary to inform the public.

(8)(7) Except as hereinafter provided, no vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeding the gross weights specified in subsections (3), (4), and (5), and (6) shall be permitted to travel on the public highways within the state.

Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 316.545, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.545 Weight and load unlawful; special fuel and motor fuel tax enforcement; inspection; penalty; review. --

(2)(a) Whenever an officer, upon weighing a vehicle or combination of vehicles with load, determines that the axle weight or gross weight is unlawful, the officer may require the driver to stop the vehicle in a suitable place and remain standing until a determination can be made as to the amount of weight thereon and, if overloaded, the amount of penalty to be assessed as provided herein. However, any gross weight over and beyond 6,000 pounds beyond the maximum herein set shall be unloaded and all material so unloaded shall be cared for by the owner or operator of the vehicle at the risk of such owner or operator. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, to facilitate compliance with and enforcement of the weight limits established in s. 316.535, weight tables published pursuant to s. 316.535(7)(6)shall include a 10-percent scale tolerance and shall thereby reflect the maximum scaled weights allowed any vehicle or combination of vehicles. As used in this section, scale tolerance means the allowable deviation from legal weights established in s. 316.535. Notwithstanding any other provision of the weight law, if a vehicle or combination of vehicles does not exceed the gross, external 31 | bridge, or internal bridge weight limits imposed in s. 316.535

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and the driver of such vehicle or combination of vehicles can comply with the requirements of this chapter by shifting or equalizing the load on all wheels or axles and does so when requested by the proper authority, the driver shall not be held to be operating in violation of said weight limits.

Section 14. Subsection (3) of section 316.650, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.650 Traffic citations.--

(3) Every traffic enforcement officer, upon issuing a traffic citation to an alleged violator of any provision of the motor vehicle laws of this state or of any traffic ordinance of any city or town, shall issue a copy of the Traffic School Reference Guide and shall deposit the original citation and one copy of such traffic citation or, in the case of a traffic enforcement agency which has an automated citation issuance system, shall provide an electronic facsimile with a court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau within 5 days after issuance to the violator.

Section 15. Subsection (9) of section 318.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.14 Noncriminal traffic infractions; exception; procedures.--

(9) Any person who is cited for an infraction under this section other than a violation of s. 320.0605, s. 320.07(3)(a) or (b), s. 322.065, s. 322.15(1), s. 322.61, or s. 322.62 may, in lieu of a court appearance, elect to attend in the location of his or her choice within this state a basic driver improvement course approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. In such a case, 31 adjudication must be withheld; points, as provided by s.

322.27, may not be assessed; and the civil penalty that is imposed by s. 318.18(3) must be reduced by 18 percent; however, a person may not make an election under this subsection if the person has made an election under this subsection in the preceding 12 months. A person may make no more than five elections under this subsection. The requirement for community service under s. 318.18(8) is not waived by a plea of nolo contendere or by the withholding of adjudication of guilt by a court.

Section 16. Subsection (4) of section 318.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.1451 Driver improvement schools.--

(4) In addition to a regular course fee, an assessment fee in the amount of \$2.50 shall be collected by the school from each person who is court-ordered to attend a course or elects to attend a course, as it relates to ss. 318.14(9), 322.0261, 322.02615, 322.05(2), 322.291, and 627.06501, which shall be remitted to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and deposited in the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to administer this program and to fund the general operations of the department.

Section 17. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 322.0261, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

322.0261 Mandatory driver improvement course; certain crashes.--

(1) The department shall screen crash reports received under s. 316.066 or s. 324.051 to identify crashes involving the following:

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- (b) A second crash by the same operator within the previous 2-year period involving property damage in an apparent amount of at least\$2,500\$500.
- (2) With respect to an operator convicted of, or who pleaded nolo contendere to, a traffic offense giving rise to a crash identified pursuant to subsection (1), the department shall require that the operator, in addition to other applicable penalties, attend a departmentally approved basic driver improvement course in order to maintain driving privileges. If the operator fails to complete the course within 90 days of receiving notice from the department, the operator's driver's license shall be canceled by the department until the course is successfully completed.

Section 18. Section 322.02615, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

322.02615 Mandatory driver improvement course; certain violations.--

- (1) The department shall screen reports of convictions for violations of chapter 316 to identify operators who:
- (a) Are less than 21 years of age and have been convicted of, or pleaded nolo contendere to, a noncriminal moving infraction and have also been convicted of, or pleaded nolo contendere to, another noncriminal moving infraction since initial license issuance.
- (b) Have been convicted of, or pleaded nolo contendere to, more than one noncriminal moving infraction in a 12-month period.
- (2) With respect to an operator convicted of, or who has pleaded nolo contendere to, a noncriminal traffic offense identified under subsection (1), the department shall require that the operator, in addition to other applicable penalties,

 attend a departmentally approved basic driver improvement course in order to maintain driving privileges. If the operator fails to complete the course within 90 days after receiving notice from the department, the operator's driver's license shall be suspended by the department until the course is successfully completed.

(3) Attendance of a course approved by the department as a driver improvement course for purposes of s. 318.14(9) shall satisfy the requirements of this section. However, attendance of a course as required by this section is not included in the limitation on course elections under s. 318.14(9).

Section 19. Subsection (2) of section 322.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.05 Persons not to be licensed.--The department may not issue a license:

- (2) To a person who is at least 16 years of age but is under 18 years of age unless the person has satisfactorily completed a Department of Education driver's education course offered pursuant to s. 233.063 or a driver's education course licensed pursuant to s. 488.01 or a basic driver improvement course which has been approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and meets the requirements of s. 322.091 and holds a valid:
- (a) Learner's driver's license for at least 12 months,with no traffic convictions, before applying for a license;
- (b) Learner's driver's license for at least 12 months and who has a traffic conviction but elects to attend a traffic driving school for which adjudication must be withheld pursuant to s. 318.14; or

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(c) License that was issued in another state or in a foreign jurisdiction and that would not be subject to suspension or revocation under the laws of this state.

Section 20. Section 330.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

330.27 Definitions, when used in ss. 330.29-330.36, 330.38, 330.39.--

- (1) "Aircraft" means a powered or unpowered machine or device capable of atmosphere flight any motor vehicle or contrivance now known, or hereafter invented, which is used or designed for navigation of or flight in the air, except a parachute or other such device contrivance designed for such navigation but used primarily as safety equipment.
- "Airport" means an any area of land or water, or any manmade object or facility located thereon, which is used for, or intended to be used for, use, for the landing and takeoff of aircraft, including and any appurtenant areas, which are used, or intended for use, for airport buildings, or other airport facilities, or rights-of-way necessary to facilitate such use or intended use, together with all airport buildings and facilities located thereon.
- (3) "Airport hazard" means any structure, object of natural growth, or use of land which obstructs the airspace required for the flight of aircraft in landing or taking off at an airport or which is otherwise hazardous to such landing or taking off.
- (4) "Aviation" means the science and art of flight and includes, but is not limited to, transportation by aircraft; the operation, construction, repair, or maintenance of aircraft, aircraft power plants, and accessories, including 31 the repair, packing, and maintenance of parachutes; the

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30 31 design, establishment, construction, extension, operation, improvement, repair, or maintenance of airports or other air navigation facilities; and instruction in flying or ground subjects pertaining thereto.

(3) "Department" means the Department of Transportation.

(4)(6) "Limited airport" means any an airport, publicly or privately owned, limited exclusively to the specific conditions stated on the site approval order or license.

(7) "Operation of aircraft" or "operate aircraft" means the use, navigation, or piloting of aircraft in the airspace over this state or upon any airport within this state.

(8) "Political subdivision" means any county, municipality, district, port or aviation commission or authority, or similar entity authorized to establish or operate an airport in this state.

(5) "Private airport" means an airport, publicly or privately owned, which is not open or available for use by the public. A private airport is registered with the department for use of the person or persons registering the facility used primarily by the licensee but may be made which is available to others for use by invitation of the registrant licensee. Services may be provided if authorized by the department.

(6)(10) "Public airport" means an airport, publicly or privately owned, which meets minimum safety and service standards and is open for use by the public as listed in the current United States Government Flight Information Publication, Airport Facility Directory. A public airport is

1 licensed by the department as meeting minimum safety 2 standards. 3 (7)(11) "Temporary airport" means any an airport, 4 publicly or privately owned, that will be used for a period of 5 less than 30 90 days with no more than 10 operations per day. 6 (8)(12) "Ultralight aircraft" means any 7 heavier-than-air, motorized aircraft meeting which meets the 8 criteria for maximum weight, fuel capacity, and airspeed established for such aircraft by the Federal Aviation 10 Regulation Administration under Part 103 of the Federal 11 Aviation Regulations. 12 Section 21. Section 330.29, Florida Statutes, is 13 amended to read: 330.29 Administration and enforcement; rules; 14 standards for airport sites and airports.--It is the duty of 15 16 the department to: (1) Administer and enforce the provisions of this 17 18 chapter. 19 (2) Establish minimum standards for airport sites and 20 airports under its licensing and registration jurisdiction. (3) Establish and maintain a state aviation data 21 22 system to facilitate licensing and registration of all 23 airports. 24 (4) (4) (3) Adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 25 120.54 to implement the provisions of this chapter. 26 Section 22. Section 330.30, Florida Statutes, is 27 amended to read:

330.30 Approval of airport sites and licensing of

(1) SITE APPROVALS; REQUIREMENTS, FEES, EFFECTIVE

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airports; fees.--

PERIOD, REVOCATION. --

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (3), the owner or lessee of any proposed airport shall, prior to site the acquisition of the site or prior to the construction or establishment of the proposed airport, obtain approval of the airport site from the department. Applications for approval of a site and for an original license shall be jointly made on a form prescribed by the department and shall be accompanied by a site approval fee of \$100. The department, after inspection of the airport site, shall grant the site approval if it is satisfied:
- 1. That the site is <u>suitable</u> adequate for the <u>airport</u> as proposed airport;
- 2. That the <u>airport as</u> proposed airport, if constructed or established, will conform to minimum standards of safety and will comply with <u>the</u> applicable <u>local government</u> <u>land development regulation or county or municipal zoning requirements;</u>
- 3. That all nearby airports, <u>local governments</u> municipalities, and property owners have been notified and any comments submitted by them have been given adequate consideration; and
- 4. That safe air-traffic patterns can be <u>established</u> worked out for the proposed airport with and for all existing airports and approved airport sites in its vicinity.
- (b) Site approval shall be granted for public airports only after a favorable department inspection of the proposed site.
- (c) Site approval shall be granted for private airports only after receipt of documentation the department deems necessary to satisfy the conditions in paragraph (a).

- $\underline{(d)}$ Site approval may be granted subject to any reasonable conditions which the department $\underline{\text{deems}}$ $\underline{\text{may deem}}$ necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.
- (e) Such Approval shall remain valid in effect for a period of 2 years after the date of issue issuance of the site approval order, unless sooner revoked by the department or unless, prior to the expiration of the 2-year period, a public airport license is issued or private airport registration granted for an airport located on the approved site has been issued pursuant to subsection (2) prior to the expiration date.
- (f) The department may extend a site approval may be extended for up to a maximum of 2 years for upon good cause shown by the owner or lessee of the airport site.
- $\underline{(g)}$ (c) The department may revoke \underline{a} site \underline{such} approval if it determines:
- 1. That there has been an abandonment of the site <u>has</u> been abandoned as an airport site;
- 2. That there has been a failure within a reasonable time to develop the site has not been developed as an airport within a reasonable time period or development does not to comply with the conditions of the site approval;
- 3. That except as required for in-flight emergencies the operation of aircraft have operated of a nonemergency nature has occurred on the site; or
- 4. That, because of changed physical or legal conditions or circumstances, the site is no longer usable for the aviation purposes due to physical or legal changes in conditions that were the subject of for which the approval was granted.

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- (2) LICENSES AND REGISTRATIONS; REQUIREMENTS, FEES, RENEWAL, REVOCATION. --
- (a) Except as provided in subsection (3), the owner or lessee of any an airport in this state must have either a public airport obtain a license or private airport registration prior to the operation of aircraft to or from the facility on the airport. An Application for a such license or registration shall be made on a form prescribed by the department and shall be accomplished jointly with an application for site approval. Upon granting site approval:7 making a favorable final airport inspection report indicating compliance with all license requirements, and receiving the appropriate license fee, the department shall issue a license to the applicant, subject to any reasonable conditions that the department may deem necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.
- 1. For a public airport, the department shall issue a license after a final airport inspection finds the facility to be in compliance with all requirements for the license. The license may be subject to any reasonable conditions that the department may deem necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.
- 2. For a private airport, the department shall provide controlled electronic access to the state aviation facility data system to permit the applicant to complete the registration process. Registration shall be completed upon self-certification by the registrant of operational and configuration data deemed necessary by the department.
- (b) The department is authorized to license a public am airport that does not meet all of the minimum standards 31 only if it determines that such exception is justified by

unusual circumstances or is in the interest of public convenience and does not endanger the public health, safety, or welfare. Such a license shall bear the designation "special" and shall state the conditions subject to which the license is granted.

- (c) The department may authorize a site to be used as a temporary airport if it finds, after inspection of the site, that the airport will not endanger the public health, safety, or welfare. A temporary airport will not require a license or registration. Such Authorization to use a site for a temporary airport will be valid for shall expire not more later than 30 days after issuance and is not renewable.
- (d) The license fees for the four categories of airport licenses are:
 - 1. Public airport: \$100.
 - 2. Private airport: \$70.
 - 3. Limited airport: \$50.
 - 4. Temporary airport: \$25.

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Airports owned or operated by the state, a county, or a municipality and emergency helistops operated by licensed hospitals are required to be licensed but are exempt from the payment of site approval fees and annual license fees.

(d)(e)1. Each public airport license will expire no later than 1 year after the effective date of the license, except that the expiration date of a license may be adjusted to provide a maximum license period of 18 months to facilitate airport inspections, recognize seasonal airport operations, or improve administrative efficiency. If the expiration date for a public airport is adjusted, the appropriate license fee

shall be determined by prorating the annual fee based on the length of the adjusted license period.

- Registration The license period for private all airports other than public airports will remain valid provided specific elements of airport data, established by the department, are periodically recertified by the airport registrant. The ability to recertify private airport registration data shall be available at all times by electronic submittal. Recertification shall be required each 12 months. A private airport registration that has not been recertified in the 12-month period following the last certification shall expire. The expiration date of the current registration period will be clearly identifiable from the state aviation facility data system. be set by the department, but shall not exceed a period of 5 years. In determining the license period for such airports, the department shall consider the number of based aircraft, the airport location relative to adjacent land uses and other airports, and any other factors deemed by the department to be critical to airport operation and safety.
- 3. The effective date and expiration date shall be shown on public airport licenses stated on the face of the license. Upon receiving an application for renewal of a public airport license on a form prescribed by the department and, making a favorable inspection report indicating compliance with all applicable requirements and conditions, and receiving the appropriate annual license fee, the department shall renew the license, subject to any conditions deemed necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.

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- 4. The department may require <u>a new</u> site approval for <u>any</u> an airport if the license <u>or registration</u> of the airport has <u>expired</u> not been renewed by the expiration date.
- 5. If the renewal application for a public airport license has and fees have not been received by the department or no private airport registration recertification has been accomplished within 15 days after the date of expiration of the license, the department may close the airport.
- <u>(e)(f)</u> The department may revoke any <u>airport</u> registration, license, or <u>license</u> renewal thereof, or refuse to <u>allow registration or</u> issue a <u>registration or license</u> renewal, if it determines:
- 1. That the site there has been abandoned as an an abandonment of the airport as such;
- 2. That the airport does not there has been a failure to comply with the registration, license, license renewal, or site conditions of the license or renewal thereof; or
- 3. That, because of changed physical or legal conditions or circumstances, the airport has become either unsafe or unusable for flight operation due to physical or legal changes in conditions that were the subject of approval the aeronautical purposes for which the license or renewal was issued.
- (3) EXEMPTIONS.--The provisions of this section do not apply to:
 - (a) An airport owned or operated by the United States.
- (b) An ultralight aircraft landing area; except that any public ultralight airport located more than within 5 nautical miles from a of another public airport or military airport, except or any ultralight landing area with more than

10 ultralight aircraft operating from the site $\frac{is\ subject\ to}{the\ provisions\ of\ this\ section}.$

- (c) A helistop used solely in conjunction with a construction project undertaken pursuant to the performance of a state contract if the purpose of the helicopter operations at the site is to expedite construction.
- (d) An airport under the jurisdiction or control of a county or municipal aviation authority or a county or municipal port authority or the Spaceport Florida Authority; however, the department shall license any such airport if such authority does not elect to exercise its exemption under this subsection.
- (d)(e) A helistop used by mosquito control or emergency services, not to include areas where permanent facilities are installed, such as hospital landing sites.
- (e)(f) An airport which meets the criteria of s. 330.27(11) used exclusively for aerial application or spraying of crops on a seasonal basis, not to include any licensed airport where permanent crop aerial application or spraying facilities are installed, if the period of operation does not exceed 30 days per calendar year. Such proposed airports, which will be located within 3 miles of existing airports or approved airport sites, shall work out safe air-traffic patterns with such existing airports or approved airport sites, by memorandums of understanding, or by letters of agreement between the parties representing the airports or sites.
- (4) EXCEPTIONS.--Private airports with ten or more based aircraft may request to be inspected and licensed by the department. Private airports licensed according to this

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subsection shall be considered private airports as defined in s. 330.27(5) in all other respects.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 330.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

330.35 Airport zoning, approach zone protection.--

(2) Airports licensed for general public use under the provisions of s. 330.30 are eligible for airport zoning approach zone protection, and the procedure shall be the same as is prescribed in chapter 333.

Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 330.36, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

330.36 Prohibition against county or municipal licensing of airports; regulation of seaplane landings .--

(2) A municipality may prohibit or otherwise regulate, for specified public health and safety purposes, the landing of seaplanes in and upon any public waters of the state which are located within the limits or jurisdiction of, or bordering on, the municipality $\underline{u}pon$ adoption of zoning requirements in compliance with the provisions of subsection (1).

Section 25. Subsection (4) of section 332.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

332.004 Definitions of terms used in ss. 332.003-332.007.--As used in ss. 332.003-332.007, the term:

"Airport or aviation development project" or "development project" means any activity associated with the design, construction, purchase, improvement, or repair of a public-use airport or portion thereof, including, but not limited to: the purchase of equipment; the acquisition of land, including land required as a condition of a federal, state, or local permit or agreement for environmental 31 | mitigation; off-airport noise mitigation projects; the

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removal, lowering, relocation, marking, and lighting of airport hazards; the installation of navigation aids used by aircraft in landing at or taking off from a public airport; the installation of safety equipment required by rule or regulation for certification of the airport under s. 612 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, and amendments thereto; and the improvement of access to the airport by road or rail system which is on airport property and which is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the approved local government comprehensive plan of the units of local government in which the airport is located.

Section 26. Subsection (4) is added to section 333.06, Florida Statutes, to read:

333.06 Airport zoning requirements.--

(4) ADOPTION OF AIRPORT MASTER PLAN AND NOTICE TO AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS .-- An airport master plan shall be prepared by each publicly owned and operated airport licensed by the Department of Transportation under chapter 330. The authorized entity having responsibility for governing the operation of the airport, when either requesting from or submitting to a state or federal governmental agency with funding or approval jurisdiction a "finding of no significant impact, " an environmental assessment, a site-selection study, an airport master plan, or any amendment to an airport master plan, shall submit simultaneously a copy of said request, submittal, assessment, study, plan, or amendments by certified mail to all affected local governments. For the purposes of this subsection, "affected local government" is defined as any city or county having jurisdiction over the airport and any city or county located within 2 miles of the boundaries of the land subject to the airport master plan.

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Section 27. Subsection (5) and paragraph (b) of subsection (15) of section 334.044, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 334.044 Department; powers and duties.--The department shall have the following general powers and duties:
- (5) To purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials, including the purchase of promotional items as part of public information and education campaigns for the promotion of scenic highways, traffic and train safety awareness, alternatives to single-occupant vehicle travel, and commercial motor vehicle safety; to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire equipment and supplies; and to sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any property that is no longer needed by the department.
- (15) To regulate and prescribe conditions for the transfer of stormwater to the state right-of-way as a result of manmade changes to adjacent properties.
- (b) The department is specifically authorized to adopt rules which set forth the purpose; necessary definitions; permit exceptions; permit and assurance requirements; permit application procedures; permit forms; general conditions for a drainage permit; provisions for suspension or revocation of a permit; and provisions for department recovery of fines, penalties, and costs incurred due to permittee actions. In order to avoid duplication and overlap with other units of government, the department shall accept a surface water management permit issued by a water management district, the Department of Environmental Protection, a surface water management permit issued by a delegated local government, or a permit issued pursuant to an approved Stormwater Management 31 | Plan or Master Drainage Plan; provided issuance is based on

requirements equal to or more stringent than those of the department. The department may enter into a permit delegation agreement with a governmental entity provided issuance is based on requirements that the department determines will ensure the safety and integrity of the Department of Transportation facilities.

Section 28. Section 334.193, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

334.193 Unlawful for certain persons to be financially interested in purchases, sales, and certain contracts; penalties.--

- (1) It is unlawful for a state officer, or an employee or agent of the department, or for any company, corporation, or firm in which a state officer, or an employee or agent of the department has a financial interest, to bid on, enter into, or be personally interested in:
- (a) The purchase or the furnishing of any materials or supplies to be used in the work of the state.
- (b) A contract for the construction of any state road, the sale of any property, or the performance of any other work for which the department is responsible.
 - (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1):
- (a) The department is authorized to consider competitive bids or proposals by employees or employee work groups who have a financial interest in matters referenced in subsection (1), where the subject matter of a request for bids or proposals by the department includes functions performed by the employees or employee work groups of the department prior to the request for bids or proposals. However, if the employees, employee work groups, or entity in which an employee of the department has an interest is the successful

bidder or proposer, such employee or employees must resign from department employment prior to executing an agreement to perform the matter bid upon.

(b) The department is authorized to consider competitive bids or proposals of employees or employee work groups submitted on behalf of the department to perform the subject matter of requests for bids or proposals. The department is authorized to select such bid or proposal for performance of the work by the department.

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The department is authorized to update existing rules or promulgate new rules pertaining to employee usage of department equipment, facilities, and supplies during business hours for nondepartment activities in order to implement this subsection.

(3) Any person who is convicted of a violation of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and shall be removed from his or her office or employment.

Section 29. Section 334.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

334.30 Public-private Private transportation facilities.--The Legislature hereby finds and declares that there is a public need for rapid construction of safe and efficient transportation facilities for the purpose of travel within the state, and that it is in the public's interest to provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical transportation facilities.

(1) The department may receive or solicit proposals 31 and, with legislative approval by a separate bill for each

facility, enter into agreements with private entities, or consortia thereof, for the building, operation, ownership, or financing of transportation facilities. The department <u>is</u> authorized to adopt rules to implement this section and shall by rule establish an application fee for the submission of proposals under this section. The fee must be sufficient to pay the costs of evaluating the proposals. The department may engage the services of private consultants to assist in the evaluation. Before seeking legislative approval, the department must determine that the proposed project:

- (a) Is in the public's best interest. +
- (b) Would not require state funds to be used unless there is an overriding state interest. However, the department may use state resources for a transportation facility project that is on the State Highway System or that provides for increased mobility on the state's transportation system. 7 and
- (c) Would have adequate safeguards in place to ensure that no additional costs or service disruptions would be realized by the traveling public and citizens of the state in the event of default or cancellation of the agreement by the department.

The department shall ensure that all reasonable costs to the state and substantially affected local governments and utilities, related to the private transportation facility, are borne by the private entity.

(2) The use of funds from the State Transportation

Trust Fund is limited to advancing projects already programmed in the adopted 5-year work program or to no more than a statewide total of \$50 million in capital costs for all projects not programmed in the adopted 5-year work program.

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- The department may request proposals for public-private transportation proposals or, if the department receives a proposal, shall publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation at least once a week for 2 weeks, stating that the department has received the proposal and will accept, for 60 days after the initial date of publication, other proposals for the same project purpose. A copy of the notice must be mailed to each local government in the affected area. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, entities selected by the department in this manner shall be deemed to have complied with open competition provisions of law.
- (4) A separate bill for projects requiring legislative approval shall be required for each facility requesting funds from the State Transportation Trust Fund in excess of a statewide total of \$50 million in capital cost for all projects not programmed in the 5-year work program.
- (5) (2) Agreements entered into pursuant to this section may authorize the private entity to impose tolls or fares for the use of the facility. However, the amount and use of toll or fare revenues may be regulated by the department to avoid unreasonable costs to users of the facility.
- (6)(3) Each private transportation facility constructed pursuant to this section shall comply with all requirements of federal, state, and local laws; state, regional, and local comprehensive plans; department rules, policies, procedures, and standards for transportation facilities; and any other conditions which the department determines to be in the public's best interest.
- (7) The department may exercise any power possessed 31 by it, including eminent domain, with respect to the

development and construction of state transportation projects to facilitate the development and construction of transportation projects pursuant to this section. For public-private facilities located on the State Highway System, the department may pay all or part of the cost of operating and maintaining the facility. For facilities not located on the State Highway System, the department may provide services to the private entity and agreements for maintenance, law enforcement, and other services entered into pursuant to this section shall provide for full reimbursement for services rendered.

(8)(5) Except as herein provided, the provisions of this section are not intended to amend existing laws by granting additional powers to, or further restricting, local governmental entities from regulating and entering into cooperative arrangements with the private sector for the planning, construction, and operation of transportation facilities.

(9) The department shall have the authority to create, or assist in the creation of, tax-exempt, public-purpose chapter 63-20 corporations as provided for under the Internal Revenue Code, for the purpose of shielding the state from possible financing risks for projects under this section.

Chapter 63-20 corporations may receive State Transportation

Trust Fund grants from the department. The department shall be empowered to enter into public-private partnership agreements with chapter 63-20 corporations for projects under this section.

(10) The department may lend funds from the Toll

Facilities Revolving Trust Fund, as outlined in s. 338.251, to chapter 63-20 corporations that propose projects containing

toll facilities. To be eligible, the chapter 63-20 corporation must meet the provisions of s. 338.251 and must also provide credit support, such as a letter of credit or other means acceptable to the department, to ensure the loans will be repaid as required by law.

(11)(6) Notwithstanding s. 341.327, a fixed-guideway transportation system authorized by the department to be wholly or partially within the department's right-of-way pursuant to a lease granted under s. 337.251 may operate at any safe speed.

Section 30. Section 335.066, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

335.066 Safe Paths to Schools Program.--

- (1) There is hereby established within the Department of Transportation the Safe Paths to Schools Program to consider the planning and construction of bicycle and pedestrian ways to provide safe transportation for children from neighborhoods to schools, parks, and the state's greenways and trails system.
- (2) As part of the Safe Paths to Schools Program, the department may establish a grant program to fund local, regional, and state bicycle and pedestrian projects that support the program.
- (3) The department may adopt appropriate rules for the administration of the Safe Paths to Schools Program.
- Section 31. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 335.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 335.141 Regulation of public railroad-highway grade crossings; reduction of hazards.--
- 30 (3) The department is authorized to regulate the speed 31 limits of railroad traffic on a municipal, county, regional,

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or statewide basis. Such speed limits shall be established by order of the department, which order is subject to the provisions of chapter 120. The department shall have the authority to adopt reasonable rules to carry out the provisions of this subsection. Such rules shall, at a minimum, provide for public input prior to the issuance of any such order.

(4) Jurisdiction to enforce such orders shall be as provided in s. 316.640, and any penalty for violation thereof shall be imposed upon the railroad company guilty of such violation. Nothing herein shall prevent a local governmental entity from enacting ordinances relating to the blocking of streets by railroad engines and cars.

(4) (4) (5) Any local governmental entity or other public or private agency planning a public event, such as a parade or race, that involves the crossing of a railroad track shall notify the railroad as far in advance of the event as possible and in no case less than 72 hours in advance of the event so that the coordination of the crossing may be arranged by the agency and railroad to assure the safety of the railroad trains and the participants in the event.

Section 32. Section 336.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

336.12 Closing and abandonment of roads; termination of easement; conveyance of fee; optional conveyance for gated communities. --

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), the act of any commissioners in closing or abandoning any such road, or in renouncing or disclaiming any rights in any land delineated on any recorded map as a road, shall abrogate the 31 easement theretofore owned, held, claimed or used by or on

behalf of the public and the title of fee owners shall be freed and released therefrom; and if the fee of road space has been vested in the county, same will be thereby surrendered and will vest in the abutting fee owners to the extent and in the same manner as in case of termination of an easement for road purposes.

- (2) The governing body of the county may abandon the roads and rights-of-way dedicated in a recorded residential subdivision plat and simultaneously convey the county's interest in such roads, rights-of-way, and appurtenant drainage facilities to a homeowners' association for the subdivision, if the following conditions have been met:
- (a) The homeowners' association has requested the abandonment and conveyance in writing for the purpose of converting the subdivision to a gated neighborhood with restricted public access.
- (b) No fewer than four-fifths of the owners of record of property located in the subdivision have consented in writing to the abandonment and simultaneous conveyance to the homeowners' association.
- (c) The homeowners' association is both a corporation not for profit organized and in good standing under chapter 617, and a "homeowners' association" as defined in s.

 720.301(7) with the power to levy and collect assessments for routine and periodic major maintenance and operation of street lighting, drainage, sidewalks, and pavement in the subdivision.
- (d) The homeowners' association has entered into and executed such agreements, covenants, warranties, and other instruments; has provided, or has provided assurance of, such funds, reserve funds, and funding sources; and has satisfied

such other requirements and conditions as may be established 1 2 or imposed by the county with respect to the ongoing operation, maintenance, and repair and the periodic 3 reconstruction or replacement of the roads, drainage, street 4 5 lighting, and sidewalks in the subdivision after the 6 abandonment by the county. 7 8 Upon abandonment of the roads and rights-of-way and the 9 conveyance thereof to the homeowners' association, the homeowners' association shall have all the rights, title, and 10 interests in the roads and rights-of-way, including all 11 12 appurtenant drainage facilities, as were previously vested in 13 the county. Thereafter, the homeowners' association shall 14 hold the roads and rights-of-way in trust for the benefit of 15 the owners of the property in the subdivision, and shall operate, maintain, repair, and, from time to time, replace and 16 reconstruct the roads, street lighting, sidewalks, and 17 drainage facilities as necessary to ensure their use and 18 19 enjoyment by the property owners, tenants, and residents of 20 the subdivision and their guests and invitees. Section 33. Subsection (4) is added to section 336.41, 21 22 Florida Statutes, to read: 23 336.41 Counties; employing labor and providing road 24 equipment; definitions. --(4)(a) For contracts in excess of \$250,000, any county 25 26 may require that persons interested in performing work under the contract first be certified or qualified to do the work. 27 28 Any contractor prequalified and considered eligible to bid by the department to perform the type of work described under the 29 contract shall be presumed to be qualified to perform the work 30 so described. Any contractor may be considered ineligible to

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bid by the county if the contractor is behind an approved progress schedule by 10 percent or more on another project for that county at the time of the advertisement of the work. The county may provide an appeal process to overcome such consideration with de novo review based on the record below to the circuit court.

- (b) The county shall publish prequalification criteria and procedures prior to advertisement or notice of solicitation. Such publications shall include notice of a public hearing for comment on such criteria and procedures prior to adoption. The procedures shall provide for an appeal process within the county for objections to the prequalification process with de novo review based on the record below to the circuit court.
- (c) The county shall also publish for comment, prior to adoption, the selection criteria and procedures to be used by the county if such procedures would allow selection of other than the lowest responsible bidder. The selection criteria shall include an appeal process within the county with de novo review based on the record below to the circuit court.

Section 34. Subsection (2) of section 336.44, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 336.44 Counties; contracts for construction of roads; procedure; contractor's bond.--
- (2) Such contracts shall be let to the lowest responsible competent bidder, after publication of notice for bids containing specifications furnished by the commissioners in a newspaper published in the county where such contract is made, at least once each week for 2 consecutive weeks prior to 31 the making of such contract.

Section 35. Section 337.107, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.107 Contracts for right-of-way services.--The department may enter into contracts pursuant to s. 287.055 or s. 337.025 for right-of-way services on transportation corridors and transportation facilities or the department may include right-of-way services as part of design-build contracts awarded pursuant to s. 337.11. Right-of-way services include negotiation and acquisition services, appraisal services, demolition and removal of improvements, and asbestos-abatement services.

Section 36. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) and paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 337.11, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids; emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders; combined design and construction contracts; progress payments; records; requirements of vehicle registration .--

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(c) When the department determines that it is in the best interest of the public for reasons of public concern, economy, improved operations or safety, and only when circumstances dictate rapid completion of the work, the department may, up to the threshold amount of \$120,000 provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY FOUR, enter into contracts for construction and maintenance without advertising and receiving competitive bids. However, if legislation is enacted by the Legislature which changes the category thresholds, the threshold amount shall remain at \$60,000. The department may enter into such contracts only upon a determination that the 31 work is necessary for one of the following reasons:

- 1. To ensure timely completion of projects or avoidance of undue delay for other projects;
- 2. To accomplish minor repairs or construction and maintenance activities for which time is of the essence and for which significant cost savings would occur; or
- 3. To accomplish nonemergency work necessary to ensure avoidance of adverse conditions that affect the safe and efficient flow of traffic.

The department shall make a good faith effort to obtain two or more quotes, if available, from qualified contractors before entering into any contract. The department shall give consideration to disadvantaged business enterprise participation. However, when the work exists within the limits of an existing contract, the department shall make a good faith effort to negotiate and enter into a contract with the prime contractor on the existing contract.

(7)(a) If the head of the department determines that it is in the best interests of the public, the department may combine the design and construction phases of a building, a major bridge, an enhancement project, or a rail corridor project into a single contract. Such contract is referred to as a design-build contract. Design-build contracts may be advertised and awarded notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (c) of subsection (3). However, construction activities may not begin on any portion of such projects until title to the necessary rights-of-way and easements for the construction of such portion of the project has vested in the state or a local governmental entity and all railroad crossing and utility agreements have been executed. Title to

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rights-of-way vests in the state when the title has been dedicated to the public or acquired by prescription.

Section 37. Subsection (4) of section 337.14, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (9) is added to said section, to read:

- 337.14 Application for qualification; certificate of qualification; restrictions; request for hearing.--
- (4) If the applicant is found to possess the prescribed qualifications, the department shall issue to him or her a certificate of qualification that which, unless thereafter revoked by the department for good cause, will be valid for a period of 18 16 months after from the date of the applicant's financial statement or such shorter period as the department prescribes may prescribe. If In the event the department finds that an application is incomplete or contains inadequate information or information that which cannot be verified, the department may request in writing that the applicant provide the necessary information to complete the application or provide the source from which any information in the application may be verified. If the applicant fails to comply with the initial written request within a reasonable period of time as specified therein, the department shall request the information a second time. If the applicant fails to comply with the second request within a reasonable period of time as specified therein, the application shall be denied.
- (9)(a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, for contracts in excess of \$250,000, an authority created pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 may require that persons interested in performing work under contract first be certified or qualified to do the work. Any contractor may be considered ineligible to bid by the governmental entity or

authority if the contractor is behind an approved progress schedule for the governmental entity or authority by 10 percent or more at the time of advertisement of the work. Any contractor prequalified and considered eligible by the department to bid to perform the type of work described under the contract shall be presumed to be qualified to perform the work so described. The governmental entity or authority may provide an appeal process to overcome that presumption with de novo review based on the record below to the circuit court.

- (b) With respect to contractors not prequalified with the department, the authority shall publish prequalification criteria and procedures prior to advertisement or notice of solicitation. Such publications shall include notice of a public hearing for comment on such criteria and procedures prior to adoption. The procedures shall provide for an appeal process within the authority for objections to the prequalification process with de novo review based on the record below to the circuit court.
- (c) An authority may establish criteria and procedures whereunder contractor selection may occur on a basis other than the lowest responsible bidder. Prior to adoption, the authority shall publish for comment the proposed criteria and procedures. Review of the adopted criteria and procedures shall be to the circuit court, within 30 days after adoption, with de novo review based on the record below.

Section 38. Subsection (2) of section 337.401, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.401 Use of right-of-way for utilities subject to regulation; permit; fees.--

30 (2) The authority may grant to any person who is a 31 resident of this state, or to any corporation which is

organized under the laws of this state or licensed to do business within this state, the use of a right-of-way for the utility in accordance with such rules or regulations as the authority may adopt. No utility shall be installed, located, or relocated unless authorized by a written permit issued by the authority. However, for public roads or publicly owned rail corridors under the jurisdiction of the department, a utility relocation schedule and relocation agreement may be executed in lieu of a written permit. The permit shall require the permitholder to be responsible for any damage resulting from the issuance of such permit. The authority may initiate injunctive proceedings as provided in s. 120.69 to enforce provisions of this subsection or any rule or order issued or entered into pursuant thereto.

Section 39. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 339.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

 $$339.08\:$ Use of moneys in State Transportation Trust Fund.--

- (1) The department shall <u>expend</u> by rule provide for the expenditure of the moneys in the State Transportation Trust Fund accruing to the department, in accordance with its annual budget.
- (2) These rules must restrict The use of such moneys shall be restricted to the following purposes:
- (a) To pay administrative expenses of the department, including administrative expenses incurred by the several state transportation districts, but excluding administrative expenses of commuter rail authorities that do not operate rail service.
- 30 (b) To pay the cost of construction of the State 31 Highway System.

- 1 (c) To pay the cost of maintaining the State Highway 2 System.
 - (d) To pay the cost of public transportation projects in accordance with chapter 341 and ss. 332.003-332.007.
 - (e) To reimburse counties or municipalities for expenditures made on projects in the State Highway System as authorized by s. 339.12(4) upon legislative approval.
 - (f) To pay the cost of economic development transportation projects in accordance with s. 288.063.
 - (g) To lend or pay a portion of the operating, maintenance, and capital costs of a revenue-producing transportation project that is located on the State Highway System or that is demonstrated to relieve traffic congestion on the State Highway System.
 - (h) To match any federal-aid funds allocated for any other transportation purpose, including funds allocated to projects not located in the State Highway System.
 - (i) To pay the cost of county road projects selected in accordance with the Small County Road Assistance Program created in s. 339.2816.
 - (j) To pay the cost of county or municipal road projects selected in accordance with the County Incentive Grant Program created in s. 339.2817 and the Small County Outreach Program created in s. 339.2818.
 - (k) To provide loans and credit enhancements for use in constructing and improving highway transportation facilities selected in accordance with the state-funded infrastructure bank created in s. 339.55.
 - (1) To fund the Transportation Outreach Program created in s. 339.137.

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 $\ensuremath{(\mathfrak{m})}$ To pay other lawful expenditures of the department.

Section 40. Subsection (5) of section 339.12, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to said section, to read:

339.12 Aid and contributions by governmental entities for department projects; federal aid.--

- (5) The department and the governing body of a governmental entity may enter into an agreement by which the governmental entity agrees to perform a highway project or project phase in the department's adopted work program that is not revenue producing or any public transportation project in the adopted work program. By specific provision in the written agreement between the department and the governing body of the governmental entity, the department may agree to compensate reimburse the governmental entity the actual cost for the project or project phase contained in the adopted work program. Compensation Reimbursement to the governmental entity for such project or project phases must be made from funds appropriated by the Legislature, and compensation reimbursement for the cost of the project or project phase is to begin in the year the project or project phase is scheduled in the work program as of the date of the agreement.
- (10) Effective January 1, 2004, any county with a population greater than 50,000 in which at least 15.5 percent of its total real property is off the ad valorem tax rolls due to state property tax exemptions, and which dedicates at least 50 percent of its 1-cent local option sales tax proceeds over the life of the tax for improvements to the State

 Transportation System or to local projects directly upgrading the State Transportation System within the county's boundary,

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shall receive maintenance funding from the department at a
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   level at least equal to the average of the past 10 years of
   transportation expenditures for planning, design,
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   right-of-way, and construction for that county. The
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   calculation of such maintenance funding shall not include the
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   State and Federal Bridge Replacement Program, the Interstate
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   program, seaports, state economic development, toll capital
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   assistance, small county resurfacing, railroad hazard
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   elimination, emergency funds, and toll projects. The county
   shall have adopted a list of specific state road projects to
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   be paid for with a 1-cent local option sales tax prior to the
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   ballot referendum. The county shall enter into a joint project
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   agreement with the department obligating a 50 percent or
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   greater portion, over the life of the 1-cent local option
   sales tax, to the department for improvements to the State
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   Transportation System. The department shall enter into a
   joint project agreement with the county, over the life of the
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   sales tax, committing to a maintenance level of funding at
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   least equal to the average of the past 10 years of
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   transportation expenditures for planning, design,
   right-of-way, and construction for that county. The county
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   government receiving these funds from the department shall
   distribute the funds in accordance with ss. 212.055(2)(c)2.
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   and 218.62. It is not the intent of the Legislature to provide
   a windfall for counties. The intent is to hold harmless any
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   eligible county willing to fund millions of dollars for state
   transportation improvements in its jurisdiction with a funding
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   level to an average of what the department typically
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   appropriates to that county for state transportation
   improvements, less any department projects for the county not
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included in the list of state projects the county is funding through the 1-cent local option sales tax.

Section 41. Paragraphs (a), (f), and (g) of subsection (4) of section 339.135, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 339.135 Work program; legislative budget request; definitions; preparation, adoption, execution, and

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- (4) FUNDING AND DEVELOPING A TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM. --
- (a)1. To assure that no district or county is penalized for local efforts to improve the State Highway System, the department shall, for the purpose of developing a tentative work program, allocate funds for new construction to the districts, except for the turnpike enterprise district, based on equal parts of population and motor fuel tax collections. Funds for resurfacing, bridge repair and rehabilitation, bridge fender system construction or repair, public transit projects except public transit block grants as provided in s. 341.052, and other programs with quantitative needs assessments shall be allocated based on the results of these assessments. The department may not transfer any funds allocated to a district under this paragraph to any other district except as provided in subsection (7). Funds for public transit block grants shall be allocated to the districts pursuant to s. 341.052.
- Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph 1., the department shall allocate at least 50 percent of any new discretionary highway capacity funds to the Florida Intrastate Highway System established pursuant to s. 338.001. Any remaining new discretionary highway capacity funds shall be allocated to the districts for new construction as provided in 31 subparagraph 1. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the

term "new discretionary highway capacity funds" means any funds available to the department above the prior year funding level for capacity improvements, which the department has the discretion to allocate to highway projects.

- (f) The central office shall submit a preliminary copy of the tentative work program to the Executive Office of the Governor, the legislative appropriations committees, the Florida Transportation Commission, and the Department of Community Affairs at least 14 days prior to the convening of the regular legislative session. Prior to the statewide public hearing required by paragraph (g), the Department of Community Affairs shall transmit to the Florida Transportation Commission a list of those projects and project phases contained in the tentative work program which are identified as being inconsistent with approved local government comprehensive plans. For urbanized areas of metropolitan planning organizations, the list may not contain any project or project phase that is scheduled in a transportation improvement program unless such inconsistency has been previously reported to the affected metropolitan planning organization. The commission shall consider the list as part of its evaluation of the tentative work program conducted pursuant to s. 20.23.
- (g) The Florida Transportation Commission shall conduct a statewide public hearing on the tentative work program and shall advertise the time, place, and purpose of the hearing in the Florida Administrative Weekly at least 7 days prior to the hearing. As part of the statewide public hearing, the commission shall, at a minimum:

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- 1. Conduct an in-depth evaluation of the tentative work program as required in s. 20.23 for compliance with applicable laws and departmental policies; and
- 2. Hear all questions, suggestions, or other comments offered by the public.

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By no later than 14 days after the regular legislative session begins, the commission shall submit to the Executive Office of the Governor and the legislative appropriations committees a report that evaluates the tentative work program for:

- a. Financial soundness;
- b. Stability;
- c. Production capacity;
- d. Accomplishments, including compliance with program objectives in s. 334.046;
- e. Compliance with approved local government comprehensive plans;
- f. Objections and requests by metropolitan planning organizations;
 - g. Policy changes and effects thereof;
- h. Identification of statewide or regional projects; and
 - i. Compliance with all other applicable laws.
- Section 42. Section 339.137, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 339.137 Transportation Outreach Program (TOP) supporting economic development; administration; definitions; eligible projects; Transportation Outreach Program (TOP) advisory council created; limitations; funding.--
- 30 (1) There is created within the Department of 31 Transportation, a Transportation Outreach Program (TOP)

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dedicated to funding transportation projects of a high priority based on the prevailing principles of preserving the existing transportation infrastructure; enhancing Florida's economic growth and competitiveness in national and international markets; promoting intermodal transportation linkages for passengers and freight; and improving travel choices to ensure efficient and cost-competitive mobility for Florida citizens, visitors, services, and goods.

- (2) For purposes of this section, words and phrases shall have the following meanings:
- (a) Preservation. -- Protecting the state's transportation infrastructure investment. Preservation includes:
- 1. Ensuring that 80 percent of the pavement on the State Highway System meets department standards;
- 2. Ensuring that 90 percent of department-maintained bridges meet department standards; and
- 3. Ensuring that the department achieves 100 percent of acceptable maintenance standards on the State Highway System.
- (b) Economic growth and competitiveness. -- Ensuring that state transportation investments promote economic activities which result in development or retention of income generative industries which increase per capita earned income in the state, and that such investments improve the state's economic competitiveness.
- (b) (c) Mobility.--Ensuring a cost-effective, statewide, interconnected transportation system.
- (c)(d) The term "Regionally significant transportation project.--of critical concern" means A transportation 30 31 | facility improvement project located in one or more counties

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county which provides significant enhancement of economic development opportunities in https://example.com/theta-nd/maintage-economic development opportunities in that region an adjoining county or counties and which provides improvements to a hurricane evacuation route.

- (3) Transportation Outreach Program projects may be proposed by any local government, regional organization, economic development board, public or private partnership, metropolitan planning organization, state agency, or other entity engaged in economic development activities.
- (4)(3) Proposed Eligible projects that meet the minimum eligibility threshold include those for planning, designing, acquiring rights-of-way for, or constructing the following:
 - (a) Major highway improvements to:-
 - 1. The Florida Intrastate Highway System.
- 2. <u>Major roads and</u> feeder roads which provide linkages to the Florida Intrastate Highway System major highways.
 - 3. Bridges of statewide or regional significance.
 - 4. Trade and economic development corridors.
 - 5. Access projects for freight and passengers.
 - 6. Hurricane evacuation routes.
 - (b) Major public transportation projects: →
- 1. Seaport projects which improve cargo and passenger movements or connect the seaports to other modes of transportation.
- 2. Aviation projects which increase passenger enplanements and cargo activity or connect the airports to other modes of transportation.
- 3. Transit projects which improve mobility on interstate highways, or which improve regional or localized travel, or connect to other modes of transportation.

- 4. Rail projects that facilitate the movement of passengers and cargo, including ancillary pedestrian facilities, or connect rail facilities to other modes of transportation.
- 5. Spaceport Florida Authority projects which improve space transportation capacity and facilities consistent with the provisions of s. 331.360.
- 6. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities that add to or enhance a statewide system of public trails.
- (c) Highway and bridge projects that facilitate retention and expansion of military installations, or that facilitate reuse and development of any military base designated for closure by the Federal Government.
- Each proposed project must be able to document that it promotes economic growth and competitiveness, as defined in paragraph (2)(a).
- (5) In addition to the above minimum eligibility requirements, each proposed project must comply with the following eligibility criteria:
- (a) The project or project phase selected can be made production-ready within a 5-year period following the end of the current fiscal year.
- (b) The project is consistent with a current transportation system plan such as the Florida Intrastate
 Highway System, aviation, intermodal/rail, seaport, spaceport, or transit system plans.
- (c) The project is not inconsistent with an approved local comprehensive plan of any local government within whose boundaries the project is located in whole or in part, or, if

inconsistent, is accompanied by an explanation of why the project should be undertaken.

(d) The project involves two or more modes of transportation or can document that it will have a significant economic benefit in two or more counties.

One or more of the minimum criteria listed in paragraphs
(a)-(d) may be waived for a regionally significant
transportation project.

- (4) Transportation Outreach projects may be proposed by any local government, regional organization, economic development board, public or private partnership, metropolitan planning organization, state agency, or other entity engaged in economic development activities.
- (6)(5) The following criteria shall be used

 Transportation funding under this section shall use the following mechanisms to prioritize the eligible proposed projects:
- (a) The project must promote economic growth and competitiveness. Economic development-related transportation projects may compete for funding under the program. Projects funded under this program should provide for increased mobility on the state's transportation system. Projects which have local or private matching funds may be given priority over other projects.
- (b) The project must promote intermodal transportation linkages for passengers and freight. Establishment of a funding allocation under this program reserved to quickly respond to transportation needs of emergent economic competitiveness development projects that may be outside of the routine project selection process. This funding may be

 used to match local or private contributions for transportation projects which meet the definition of economic competitiveness contained in this section.

- for Florida residents, visitors, and commercial interests in order to ensure efficient and cost-competitive mobility of people, services, and goods. Establish innovative financing methods to enable the state to respond in a timely manner to major or emergent economic development-related transportation needs that require timely commitments. These innovative financing methods include, but are not limited to, the state infrastructure bank, state bonds for right-of-way acquisition and bridge construction, state bonds for fixed guideway transportation systems, state bonds for federal aid highway construction, funds previously programmed by the department for high-speed rail development, and any other local, state, or federal funds made available to the department.
- (d) Projects that have local, federal, or private matching funds shall be given priority over projects that meet all other criteria.
- (7) Eligible projects shall also utilize innovative financing methods that enable the state to respond in a timely manner to major or emergent transportation needs related to economic development that require timely commitments. These innovative financing methods include, but are not limited to, private investment strategies, use of the state infrastructure bank, state bonds for right-of-way acquisition and bridge construction, state bonds for fixed guideway transportation systems, state bonds for federal aid highway construction, funds previously programmed by the department for high-speed

rail development, and any other local, state, or federal funds made available to the department.

- (6) In addition to complying with the prevailing principles provided in subsection (1), to be eligible for funding under the program, projects must also meet the following minimum criteria:
- (a) The project or project phase selected can be made production-ready within a 5-year period following the end of the current fiscal year.
- (b) The project is listed in an outer year of the 5-year work program and can be made production-ready and advanced to an earlier year of the 5-year work program.
- (c) The project is consistent with a current transportation system plan including, but not limited to, the Florida Intrastate Highway System, aviation, intermodal/rail, seaport, spaceport, or transit system plans.
- (d) The project is not inconsistent with an approved local comprehensive plan of any local government within whose boundaries the project is located in whole or in part or, if inconsistent, is accompanied by an explanation of why the project should be undertaken.
- (e) One or more of the minimum criteria listed in paragraphs (a)-(d) may be waived for a statewide or regionally significant transportation project of critical concern.
- (8) (7) The Transportation Outreach Program (TOP) advisory council is created to annually make recommendations to the Legislature on prioritization and selection of economic growth projects as provided in this section.
 - (a) The council shall consist of:
- 1. Two representatives of private interests, chosen by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who are directly

involved in or affected by any mode of transportation or tourism chosen by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

- 2. Two representatives of private interests, chosen by the President of the Senate, who are directly involved in or affected by any mode of transportation or tourism chosen by the President of the Senate.
- 3. Three representatives of private or governmental interests, chosen by the Governor, who are directly involved in or affected by any mode of transportation or tourism chosen by the Governor.
- (b) Terms for council members shall be 2 years, and each member shall be allowed one vote. Every 2 years, the council shall select from among its membership a chair and vice chair.
- (c) Initial appointments must be made no later than 60 days after this act takes effect. Vacancies in the council shall be filled in the same manner as the initial appointments.
- (d) The council shall hold its initial meeting no later than 30 days after the members have been appointed in order to organize and select a chair and vice chair from the council membership. Meetings shall be held at the call of the chair, but not less frequently than quarterly.
- (e) The members of the council shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.
- (f) The department shall provide administrative staff support, ensuring that council meetings are electronically recorded. Such recordings and all documents received, prepared for, or used by the council in conducting its business shall be preserved pursuant to chapters 119 and 257. In addition,

the department shall provide for travel and per diem expenses for the council in its annual budget.

- (g) The council shall develop a methodology for scoring and ranking project proposals based on the prioritization criteria in subsection (6). The council may change a project's ranking based on other factors as determined by the council. However, such other factors must be fully documented in writing by the council.
- (h) The council is encouraged to seek input from transportation or economic development entities and to consider the reports and recommendations of task forces, study commissions, or similar entities charged with reviewing issues relevant to the council's mission.
- (9)(8) Because transportation investment plays a key role in economic development, the council and the department shall actively participate in state and local economic development programs, including:
- (a) Working in partnership with other state and local agencies in business recruitment, expansion, and retention activities to ensure early transportation input into these activities.
- (b) Providing expertise and rapid response in analyzing the transportation needs of emergent economic development projects.
- (c) <u>Developing</u> The council and department must develop a macroeconomic analysis of the linkages between transportation investment and economic performance, as well as a method to quantifiably measure the economic benefits of the investments.

 (d) Identifying long-term strategic transportation
projects that will promote the principles listed in subsection
(1).

(10)(9) The council shall review and prioritize projects submitted for funding under the program with priority given to projects which comply with the prevailing principles provided in subsection (1), and shall recommend to the Legislature a transportation outreach program. The department shall provide technical expertise and support as requested by the council, and shall develop financial plans, cash forecast plans, and program and resource plans necessary to implement this program. These supporting documents shall be submitted with the Transportation Outreach Program.

(11)(a)(10) Projects recommended for funding under the Transportation Outreach Program shall be submitted to the Florida Transportation Commission at least 30 days before the start of the regular legislative session. The Florida Transportation Commission shall review the projects to determine whether they are in compliance with this section and prepare a report detailing its findings.

(b) The council shall submit its list of recommended projects to the Governor and the Legislature as a separate budget request submitted at the same time as section of the department's preliminary tentative work program, which is 14 days before the start of the regular session. The Florida Transportation Commission shall submit its written report at the same time to the Governor and the Legislature. Final approval of the Transportation Outreach Program project list shall be made by the Legislature through the General Appropriations Act. Program projects approved by the

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Legislature must be included in the department's adopted work program.

(12)(11) For purposes of funding projects under the Transportation Outreach Program, the department shall allocate from the State Transportation Trust Fund in its program and resource plan a minimum of \$60 million each year beginning in fiscal year 2001-2002 for a transportation outreach program. This funding is to be reserved for projects to be funded pursuant to this section under the Transportation Outreach Program. This allocation of funds is in addition to any funding provided to this program by any other provision of law.

(13)(12) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary the requirements of ss. 206.46(3), 206.606(2), 339.135, 339.155, and 339.175 shall not apply to the Transportation Outreach Program.

(14)(13) The department is authorized to adopt rules to implement the Transportation Outreach Program supporting economic development.

Section 43. Subsection (5) of section 341.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

341.051 Administration and financing of public transit programs and projects. --

- (5) FUND PARTICIPATION; CAPITAL ASSISTANCE. --
- The department may fund up to 50 percent of the nonfederal share of the costs, not to exceed the local share, of any eligible public transit capital project or commuter assistance project that is local in scope; except, however, that departmental participation in the final design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction phases of an 31 | individual fixed-guideway project which is not approved for

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federal funding shall not exceed an amount equal to 12.5 percent of the total cost of each phase.

- (b) The Department of Transportation shall develop a major capital investment policy which shall include policy criteria and guidelines for the expenditure or commitment of state funds for public transit capital projects. The policy shall include the following:
- 1. Methods to be used to determine consistency of a transit project with the approved local government comprehensive plans of the units of local government in which the project is located.
- 2. Methods for evaluating the level of local commitment to a transit project, which is to be demonstrated through system planning and the development of a feasible plan to fund operating cost through fares, value capture techniques such as joint development and special districts, or other local funding mechanisms.
- 3. Methods for evaluating alternative transit systems including an analysis of technology and alternative methods for providing transit services in the corridor.
- (b)(c) The department is authorized to fund up to 100 percent of the cost of any eligible transit capital project or commuter assistance project that is statewide in scope or involves more than one county where no other governmental entity or appropriate jurisdiction exists.
- (c)(d) The department is authorized to advance up to 80 percent of the capital cost of any eligible project that will assist Florida's transit systems in becoming fiscally self-sufficient. Such advances shall be reimbursed to the department on an appropriate schedule not to exceed 5 years 31 after the date of provision of the advances.

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(d) (e) The department is authorized to fund up to 100 percent of the capital and net operating costs of statewide transit service development projects or transit corridor projects. All transit service development projects shall be specifically identified by way of a departmental appropriation request, and transit corridor projects shall be identified as part of the planned improvements on each transportation corridor designated by the department. The project objectives, the assigned operational and financial responsibilities, the timeframe required to develop the required service, and the criteria by which the success of the project will be judged shall be documented by the department for each such transit service development project or transit corridor project.

(e)(f) The department is authorized to fund up to 50 percent of the capital and net operating costs of transit service development projects that are local in scope and that will improve system efficiencies, ridership, or revenues. such projects shall be identified in the appropriation request of the department through a specific program of projects, as provided for in s. 341.041, that is selectively applied in the following functional areas and is subject to the specified times of duration:

- Improving system operations, including, but not limited to, realigning route structures, increasing system average speed, decreasing deadhead mileage, expanding area coverage, and improving schedule adherence, for a period of up to 3 years;
- Improving system maintenance procedures, including, but not limited to, effective preventive maintenance programs, 31 | improved mechanics training programs, decreasing service

repair calls, decreasing parts inventory requirements, and decreasing equipment downtime, for a period of up to 3 years;

- 3. Improving marketing and consumer information programs, including, but not limited to, automated information services, organized advertising and promotion programs, and signing of designated stops, for a period of up to 2 years; and
- 4. Improving technology involved in overall operations, including, but not limited to, transit equipment, fare collection techniques, electronic data processing applications, and bus locators, for a period of up to 2 years.

For purposes of this section, the term "net operating costs" means all operating costs of a project less any federal funds, fares, or other sources of income to the project.

Section 44. Subsections (7), (8), and (10) of section 341.302, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

341.302 Rail program, duties and responsibilities of the department.—The department, in conjunction with other governmental units and the private sector, shall develop and implement a rail program of statewide application designed to ensure the proper maintenance, safety, revitalization, and expansion of the rail system to assure its continued and increased availability to respond to statewide mobility needs. Within the resources provided pursuant to chapter 216, and as authorized under Title 49 C.F.R. part 212, the department shall:

(7) Develop and administer state standards concerning the safety and performance of rail systems, hazardous material handling, and operations. Such standards shall be developed jointly with representatives of affected rail systems, with

 full consideration given to nationwide industry norms, and shall define the minimum acceptable standards for safety and performance.

- (8) Conduct, at a minimum, inspections of track and rolling stock, train signals and related equipment, that hazardous materials transportation, including the loading, unloading, and labeling of hazardous materials at shippers', receivers', and transfer points and train operating practices to determine adherence to state and federal standards.

 Department personnel may enforce any safety regulation issued under the Federal Government's preemptive authority over interstate commerce.
- (10) Administer rail operating and construction programs, which programs shall include the regulation of maximum train operating speeds, the opening and closing of public grade crossings, the construction and rehabilitation of public grade crossings, and the installation of traffic control devices at public grade crossings, the administering of the programs by the department including participation in the cost of the programs.

Section 45. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 348.0003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.0003 Expressway authority; formation; membership.--

(2) The governing body of an authority shall consist of not fewer than five nor more than nine voting members. The district secretary of the affected department district shall serve as a nonvoting member of the governing body of each authority located within the district. Each member of the governing body must at all times during his or her term of

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amended to read:

office be a permanent resident of the county which he or she is appointed to represent.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this subsection, in any county as defined in s. 125.011(1), the governing body of an authority shall consist of up to 13 members, and the following provisions of this paragraph shall apply specifically to such authority. Except for the district secretary of the department, the members must be residents of the county. Seven voting members shall be appointed by the governing body of the county. At the discretion of the governing body of the county, up to two of the members appointed by the governing body of the county may be elected officials residing in the county. Five voting members of the authority shall be appointed by the Governor. One member shall be the district secretary of the department serving in the district that contains such county. This member shall be an ex officio voting member of the authority. If the governing board of an authority includes any member originally appointed by the governing body of the county as a nonvoting member, when the term of such member expires, that member shall be replaced by a member appointed by the Governor until the governing body of the authority is composed of seven members appointed by the governing body of the county and five members appointed by the Governor. The qualifications, the terms of office, and the obligations and rights of members of the authority shall be determined by resolution or ordinance of the governing body of the county in a manner that is consistent with subsections (3) and (4).

Section 46. Section 348.0012, Florida Statutes, is

348.0012 Exemptions from applicability.--The Florida Expressway Authority Act does not apply:

- (1) $\underline{\text{To}}$ In a county in which an expressway authority which has been created pursuant to parts II-IX of this chapter; or
- (2) To a transportation authority created pursuant to chapter 349.

Section 47. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 348.754, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.754 Purposes and powers.--

(1)

(b) It is the express intention of this part that said authority, in the construction of said Orlando-Orange County Expressway System, shall be authorized to acquire, finance, construct, and equip any extensions, additions, or improvements to said system, or appurtenant facilities, including all necessary approaches, roads, bridges, and avenues of access as the authority shall deem desirable and proper, together with such changes, modifications, or revisions to of said system or appurtenant facilities project as the authority shall deem be deemed desirable and proper.

Section 48. Section 348.7543, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.7543 Improvements, bond financing authority for.--Pursuant to s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution, the Legislature hereby approves for bond financing by the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority the cost of acquiring, constructing, equipping, improving, or refurbishing any expressway system, including improvements to toll collection facilities, interchanges, future extensions and additions, necessary approaches, roads, bridges, and

avenues of access to the legislatively approved expressway 1 2 system, and any other facility appurtenant, necessary, or incidental to the approved system, all as deemed desirable and 3 proper by the authority pursuant to s. 348.754(1)(b). 4 Subject 5 to terms and conditions of applicable revenue bond resolutions and covenants, such costs financing may be financed in whole 6 7 or in part by revenue bonds issued pursuant to s. 8 348.755(1)(a) or (b) whether currently issued, issued in the 9 future, or by a combination of such bonds. Section 49. Section 348.7544, Florida Statutes, is 10 11 amended to read: 12 348.7544 Northwest Beltway Part A, construction 13 authorized; financing.--Notwithstanding s. 338.2275, the 14 Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority is hereby authorized to construct, finance, operate, own, and maintain 15 16 that portion of the Western Beltway known as the Northwest Beltway Part A, extending from Florida's Turnpike near Ocoee 17 north to U.S. 441 near Apopka, as part of the authority's 18 20-year capital projects plan. This project may be financed 19 20 with any funds available to the authority for such purpose or 21 revenue bonds issued by the Division of Bond Finance of the 22 State Board of Administration on behalf of the authority pursuant to s. 11, Art. VII of the State Constitution and the 23 State Bond Act, ss. 215.57-215.83. This project may be 24 refinanced with bonds issued by the authority pursuant to s. 25 26 348.755(1)(d). 27 Section 50. Section 348.7545, Florida Statutes, is 28 amended to read: 29 348.7545 Western Beltway Part C, construction authorized; financing.--Notwithstanding s. 338.2275, the 30

Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority is authorized to

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exercise its condemnation powers, construct, finance, operate, own, and maintain that portion of the Western Beltway known as the Western Beltway Part C, extending from Florida's Turnpike near Ocoee in Orange County southerly through Orange and Osceola Counties to an interchange with I-4 near the Osceola-Polk County line, as part of the authority's 20-year capital projects plan. This project may be financed with any funds available to the authority for such purpose or revenue bonds issued by the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration on behalf of the authority pursuant to s. 11, Art. VII of the State Constitution and the State Bond Act, ss. 215.57-215.83. This project may be refinanced with bonds issued by the authority pursuant to s. 348.755(1)(d).

Section 51. Subsection (1) of section 348.755, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.755 Bonds of the authority.--

- (1)(a) Bonds may be issued on behalf of the authority pursuant to the State Bond Act.
- (b) Alternatively, the authority may issue its own bonds pursuant to the provisions of this part at such times and in such principal amount as, in the opinion of the authority, is necessary to provide sufficient moneys for achieving its purposes; however, such bonds shall not pledge the full faith and credit of the state. Bonds issued by the authority pursuant to paragraphs (a) or (b) The bonds of the authority issued pursuant to the provisions of this part, whether on original issuance or on refunding, shall be authorized by resolution of the members thereof and may be either term or serial bonds, shall bear such date or dates, mature at such time or times, not exceeding 40 years from 31 their respective dates, bear interest at such rate or rates,

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payable semiannually, be in such denominations, be in such form, either coupon or fully registered, shall carry such registration, exchangeability and interchangeability privileges, be payable in such medium of payment and at such place or places, be subject to such terms of redemption and be entitled to such priorities on the revenues, rates, fees, rentals or other charges or receipts of the authority including the Orange County gasoline tax funds received by the authority pursuant to the terms of any lease-purchase agreement between the authority and the department, as such resolution or any resolution subsequent thereto may provide. The bonds shall be executed either by manual or facsimile signature by such officers as the authority shall determine, provided that such bonds shall bear at least one signature which is manually executed thereon, and the coupons attached to such bonds shall bear the facsimile signature or signatures of such officer or officers as shall be designated by the authority and shall have the seal of the authority affixed, imprinted, reproduced or lithographed thereon, all as may be prescribed in such resolution or resolutions.

<u>(c)(b)</u> Said Bonds <u>issued pursuant to paragraphs (a)</u> and (b)shall be sold at public sale in the <u>same</u> manner provided by the State Bond Act. However, if the authority shall, by official action at a public meeting, determine that a negotiated sale of <u>such</u> the bonds is in the best interest of the authority, the authority may negotiate for sale of the bonds with the underwriter or underwriters designated by the authority and the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration <u>with respect to bonds issued pursuant to paragraph (b). The authority's determination to negotiate the sale of such bonds may be based in part upon the written</u>

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30 31 <u>advice of its financial advisor</u>. Pending the preparation of definitive bonds, interim certificates may be issued to the purchaser or purchasers of such bonds and may contain such terms and conditions as the authority may determine.

(d) The authority may issue bonds pursuant to paragraph (b) to refund any bonds previously issued regardless of whether the bonds being refunded were issued by the authority pursuant to this chapter or on behalf of the authority pursuant to the State Bond Act.

Section 52. Section 348.765, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.765 This part complete and additional authority.--

(1) The powers conferred by this part shall be in addition and supplemental to the existing powers of said board and the department, and this part shall not be construed as repealing any of the provisions, of any other law, general, special or local, but to supersede such other laws in the exercise of the powers provided in this part, and to provide a complete method for the exercise of the powers granted in this part. The extension and improvement of said Orlando-Orange County Expressway System, and the issuance of bonds hereunder to finance all or part of the cost thereof, may be accomplished upon compliance with the provisions of this part without regard to or necessity for compliance with the provisions, limitations, or restrictions contained in any other general, special or local law, including, but not limited to, s. 215.821, and no approval of any bonds issued under this part by the qualified electors or qualified electors who are freeholders in the state or in said County of Orange, or in said City of Orlando, or in any other political

subdivision of the state, shall be required for the issuance of such bonds pursuant to this part.

(2) This part shall not be deemed to repeal, rescind, or modify any other law or laws relating to said State Board of Administration, said Department of Transportation, or the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration, but shall be deemed to and shall supersede such other law or laws as are inconsistent with the provisions of this part, including, but not limited to, s. 215.821.

Section 53. Subsections (1) through (6) and subsection (8) of section 373.4137, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (9) is added to said section, to read:

373.4137 Mitigation requirements.--

- mitigation for the impact of transportation projects proposed by the Department of Transportation or a transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 can be more effectively achieved by regional, long-range mitigation planning rather than on a project-by-project basis. It is the intent of the Legislature that mitigation to offset the adverse effects of these transportation projects be funded by the Department of Transportation and be carried out by the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management districts, including the use of mitigation banks established pursuant to this part.
- (2) Environmental impact inventories for transportation projects proposed by the Department of Transportation or a transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 shall be developed as follows:

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- (a) By May 1 of each year, the Department of Transportation or a transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 shall submit to the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management districts a copy of its adopted work program and an inventory of habitats addressed in the rules tentatively, pursuant to this part and s. 404 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. s. 1344, which may be impacted by its plan of construction for transportation projects in the next 3 years of the tentative work program. The Department of Transportation or a transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 may also include in its inventory the habitat impacts of any future transportation project identified in the tentative work program.
- (b) The environmental impact inventory shall include a description of these habitat impacts, including their location, acreage, and type; state water quality classification of impacted wetlands and other surface waters; any other state or regional designations for these habitats; and a survey of threatened species, endangered species, and species of special concern affected by the proposed project.
- (3)(a) To fund the mitigation plan for the projected impacts identified in the inventory described in subsection (2), the Department of Transportation shall identify funds quarterly in an escrow account within the State Transportation Trust Fund for the environmental mitigation phase of projects budgeted by the Department of Transportation for the current fiscal year. The escrow account will be maintained by the Department of Transportation for the benefit of the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management

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districts. Any interest earnings from the escrow account shall remain with the Department of Transportation.

- (b) Each transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 that chooses to participate in this program shall create an escrow account within its financial structure and deposit funds in the account to pay for the environmental mitigation phase of projects budgeted for the current fiscal year. The escrow account will be maintained by the authority for the benefit of the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management districts. Any interest earnings from the escrow account shall remain with the authority.
- (c) The Department of Environmental Protection or water management districts may request a transfer of funds from an the escrow account no sooner than 30 days prior to the date the funds are needed to pay for activities associated with development or implementation of the approved mitigation plan described in subsection (4) for the current fiscal year, including, but not limited to, design, engineering, production, and staff support. Actual conceptual plan preparation costs incurred before plan approval may be submitted to the Department of Transportation or the appropriate transportation authority and the Department of Environmental Protection by November 1 of each year with the plan. The conceptual plan preparation costs of each water management district will be paid based on the amount approved on the mitigation plan and allocated to the current fiscal year projects identified by the water management district. The amount transferred to the escrow accounts account each year by the Department of Transportation and participating transportation authorities established pursuant to chapter 348

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or chapter 349 shall correspond to a cost per acre of \$75,000 multiplied by the projected acres of impact identified in the inventory described in subsection (2). However, the \$75,000 cost per acre does not constitute an admission against interest by the state or its subdivisions nor is the cost admissible as evidence of full compensation for any property acquired by eminent domain or through inverse condemnation. Each July 1, the cost per acre shall be adjusted by the percentage change in the average of the Consumer Price Index issued by the United States Department of Labor for the most recent 12-month period ending September 30, compared to the base year average, which is the average for the 12-month period ending September 30, 1996. At the end of each year, the projected acreage of impact shall be reconciled with the acreage of impact of projects as permitted, including permit modifications, pursuant to this part and s. 404 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. s. 1344. The subject year's transfer of funds shall be adjusted accordingly to reflect the overtransfer or undertransfer of funds from the preceding year. The Department of Transportation and participating transportation authorities established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 are is authorized to transfer such funds from the escrow accounts account to the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management districts to carry out the mitigation programs.

(4) Prior to December 1 of each year, each water management district, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Transportation, transportation authorities established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349, and other appropriate federal, state, and local

governments, and other interested parties, including entities 1 2 operating mitigation banks, shall develop a plan for the 3 primary purpose of complying with the mitigation requirements adopted pursuant to this part and 33 U.S.C. s. 1344. 4 5 plan shall also address significant invasive plant problems 6 within wetlands and other surface waters. In developing such 7 plans, the districts shall utilize sound ecosystem management 8 practices to address significant water resource needs and shall focus on activities of the Department of Environmental 9 Protection and the water management districts, such as surface 10 11 water improvement and management (SWIM) waterbodies and lands 12 identified for potential acquisition for preservation, 13 restoration, and enhancement, to the extent that such 14 activities comply with the mitigation requirements adopted under this part and 33 U.S.C. s. 1344. In determining the 15 16 activities to be included in such plans, the districts shall also consider the purchase of credits from public or private 17 mitigation banks permitted under s. 373.4136 and associated 18 19 federal authorization and shall include such purchase as a 20 part of the mitigation plan when such purchase would offset 21 the impact of the transportation project, provide equal 22 benefits to the water resources than other mitigation options being considered, and provide the most cost-effective 23 mitigation option. The mitigation plan shall be preliminarily 24 25 approved by the water management district governing board and shall be submitted to the secretary of the Department of 26 27 Environmental Protection for review and final approval. The 28 preliminary approval by the water management district 29 governing board does not constitute a decision that affects substantial interests as provided by s. 120.569. At least 30 30 31 days prior to preliminary approval, the water management

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district shall provide a copy of the draft mitigation plan to any person who has requested a copy.

- (a) For each transportation project with a funding request for the next fiscal year, the mitigation plan must include a brief explanation of why a mitigation bank was or was not chosen as a mitigation option, including an estimation of identifiable costs of the mitigation bank and nonbank options to the extent practicable.
- Specific projects may be excluded from the mitigation plan and shall not be subject to this section upon the agreement of the Department of Transportation, a transportation authority if applicable, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the appropriate water management district that the inclusion of such projects would hamper the efficiency or timeliness of the mitigation planning and permitting process, or the Department of Environmental Protection and the water management district are unable to identify mitigation that would offset the impacts of the project.
- (c) Surface water improvement and management or invasive plant control projects undertaken using the \$12 million advance transferred from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Environmental Protection in fiscal year 1996-1997 which meet the requirements for mitigation under this part and 33 U.S.C. s. 1344 shall remain available for mitigation until the \$12 million is fully credited up to and including fiscal year 2004-2005. When these projects are used as mitigation, the \$12 million advance shall be reduced by \$75,000 per acre of impact mitigated. For any fiscal year through and including fiscal year 2004-2005, to 31 the extent the cost of developing and implementing the

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mitigation plans is less than the amount transferred pursuant to subsection (3), the difference shall be credited towards the \$12 million advance. Except as provided in this paragraph, any funds not directed to implement the mitigation plan should, to the greatest extent possible, be directed to fund invasive plant control within wetlands and other surface waters.

- (5) The water management district shall be responsible for ensuring that mitigation requirements pursuant to 33 U.S.C. s. 1344 are met for the impacts identified in the inventory described in subsection (2), by implementation of the approved plan described in subsection (4) to the extent funding is provided by the Department of Transportation, or a transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 if applicable. During the federal permitting process, the water management district may deviate from the approved mitigation plan in order to comply with federal permitting requirements.
- (6) The mitigation plans plan shall be updated annually to reflect the most current Department of Transportation work program and project list of a transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 if applicable and may be amended throughout the year to anticipate schedule changes or additional projects which may arise. Each update and amendment of the mitigation plan shall be submitted to the secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection for approval. However, such approval shall not be applicable to a deviation as described in subsection (5).
- (8) This section shall not be construed to eliminate 31 the need for the Department of Transportation or a

 transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 348 or chapter 349 to comply with the requirement to implement practicable design modifications, including realignment of transportation projects, to reduce or eliminate the impacts of its transportation projects on wetlands and other surface waters as required by rules adopted pursuant to this part, or to diminish the authority under this part to regulate other impacts, including water quantity or water quality impacts, or impacts regulated under this part that are not identified in the inventory described in subsection (2).

(9) The process for environmental mitigation for the impact of transportation projects under this section shall be available to an expressway, bridge, or transportation authority established under chapters 348 and 349. Use of this process may be initiated by an authority depositing the requisite funds into an escrow account set up by the authority and filing an environmental impact inventory with the appropriate water management district. An authority that initiates the environmental mitigation process established by this section shall comply with subsection (6) by timely providing the appropriate water management district and the Department of Environmental Protection with the requisite work program information. A water management district may draw down funds from the escrow account in the manner and on the basis provided in subsection (5).

Section 54. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2), paragraph (c) of subsection (3), paragraph (b) of subsection (4), and paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (19) of section 380.06, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraphs (i) and (j) are added to subsection (24) of said section, to read:

380.06 Developments of regional impact.--

- (2) STATEWIDE GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS.--
- (d) The guidelines and standards shall be applied as follows:

1. Fixed thresholds.--

 $\underline{1.a.}$ A development that is at or below $\underline{100}$ 80 percent of all numerical thresholds in the guidelines and standards shall not be required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review.

2.b. A development that is at or above 100 percent of any numerical threshold shall be required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review.

3.e. Projects certified under s. 403.973 which create at least 100 jobs and meet the criteria of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development as to their impact on an area's economy, employment, and prevailing wage and skill levels that are at or below 100 percent of the numerical thresholds for industrial plants, industrial parks, distribution, warehousing or wholesaling facilities, office development or multiuse projects other than residential, as described in s. 380.0651(3)(b)(c),(c)(d), and (h)(i), are not required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review.

2. Rebuttable presumptions.--

a. It shall be presumed that a development that is between 80 and 100 percent of a numerical threshold shall not be required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review.

b. It shall be presumed that a development that is at 100 percent or between 100 and 120 percent of a numerical threshold shall be required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review.

(3) VARIATION OF THRESHOLDS IN STATEWIDE GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS.--The state land planning agency, a regional

planning agency, or a local government may petition the Administration Commission to increase or decrease the numerical thresholds of any statewide guideline and standard. The state land planning agency or the regional planning agency may petition for an increase or decrease for a particular local government's jurisdiction or a part of a particular jurisdiction. A local government may petition for an increase or decrease within its jurisdiction or a part of its jurisdiction. A number of requests may be combined in a single petition.

- (c) The Administration Commission shall have authority to increase or decrease a threshold in the statewide guidelines and standards up to 50 percent above or below the statewide presumptive threshold. The commission may from time to time reconsider changed thresholds and make additional variations as it deems necessary.
 - (4) BINDING LETTER.--
- (b) Unless a developer waives the requirements of this paragraph by agreeing to undergo development-of-regional-impact review pursuant to this section, the state land planning agency or local government with jurisdiction over the land on which a development is proposed may require a developer to obtain a binding letter if÷
- 1. the development is at a presumptive numerical threshold or up to 20 percent above a numerical threshold in the guidelines and standards.
- 2. The development is between a presumptive numerical threshold and 20 percent below the numerical threshold and the local government or the state land planning agency is in doubt as to whether the character or magnitude of the development at

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the proposed location creates a likelihood that the development will have a substantial effect on the health, safety, or welfare of citizens of more than one county.

- (19) SUBSTANTIAL DEVIATIONS.--
- (b) Any proposed change to a previously approved development of regional impact or development order condition which, either individually or cumulatively with other changes, exceeds any of the following criteria shall constitute a substantial deviation and shall cause the development to be subject to further development-of-regional-impact review without the necessity for a finding of same by the local government:
- 1. An increase in the number of parking spaces at an attraction or recreational facility by 5 percent or 300 spaces, whichever is greater, or an increase in the number of spectators that may be accommodated at such a facility by 5 percent or 1,000 spectators, whichever is greater.
- 2. A new runway, a new terminal facility, a 25-percent lengthening of an existing runway, or a 25-percent increase in the number of gates of an existing terminal, but only if the increase adds at least three additional gates. However, if an airport is located in two counties, a 10-percent lengthening of an existing runway or a 20-percent increase in the number of gates of an existing terminal is the applicable criteria.
- 2.3. An increase in the number of hospital beds by 5 percent or 60 beds, whichever is greater.
- 3.4. An increase in industrial development area by 5 percent or 32 acres, whichever is greater.
- 4.5. An increase in the average annual acreage mined by 5 percent or 10 acres, whichever is greater, or an increase in the average daily water consumption by a mining operation

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by 5 percent or 300,000 gallons, whichever is greater. increase in the size of the mine by 5 percent or 750 acres, whichever is less.

5.6. An increase in land area for office development by 5 percent or 6 acres, whichever is greater, or an increase of gross floor area of office development by 5 percent or 60,000 gross square feet, whichever is greater.

- 7. An increase in the storage capacity for chemical or petroleum storage facilities by 5 percent, 20,000 barrels, or 7 million pounds, whichever is greater.
- 6.8. An increase of development at a waterport of wet storage for 20 watercraft, dry storage for 30 watercraft, or wet/dry storage for 60 watercraft in an area identified in the state marina siting plan as an appropriate site for additional waterport development or a 5-percent increase in watercraft storage capacity, whichever is greater.
- 7.9. An increase in the number of dwelling units by 5 percent or 50 dwelling units, whichever is greater.
- 8.10. An increase in commercial development by 6 acres of land area or by 50,000 square feet of gross floor area, or of parking spaces provided for customers for 300 cars or a 5-percent increase of any of these, whichever is greater.
- 9.11. An increase in hotel or motel facility units by 5 percent or 75 units, whichever is greater.
- 10.12. An increase in a recreational vehicle park area by 5 percent or 100 vehicle spaces, whichever is less.
- 11.13. A decrease in the area set aside for open space of 5 percent or 20 acres, whichever is less.
- 12.14. A proposed increase to an approved multiuse development of regional impact where the sum of the increases 31 of each land use as a percentage of the applicable substantial

deviation criteria is equal to or exceeds 100 percent. The percentage of any decrease in the amount of open space shall be treated as an increase for purposes of determining when 100 percent has been reached or exceeded.

13.15. A 15-percent increase in the number of external vehicle trips generated by the development above that which was projected during the original development-of-regional-impact review.

14.16. Any change which would result in development of any area which was specifically set aside in the application for development approval or in the development order for preservation or special protection of endangered or threatened plants or animals designated as endangered, threatened, or species of special concern and their habitat, primary dunes, or archaeological and historical sites designated as significant by the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State. The further refinement of such areas by survey shall be considered under sub-subparagraph (e)5.b.

The substantial deviation numerical standards in subparagraphs 3.4., 5.6., 8.10., 12.14., excluding residential uses, and 13.15., are increased by 100 percent for a project certified under s. 403.973 which creates jobs and meets criteria established by the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development as to its impact on an area's economy, employment, and prevailing wage and skill levels. The substantial deviation numerical standards in subparagraphs 3.4., 5.6., 7.9., 8.10., 9.11., and 12.14.are increased by 50 percent for a project located wholly within an urban infill and redevelopment area designated on the applicable adopted local

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30 31 comprehensive plan future land use map and not located within the coastal high hazard area.

- (e)1. A proposed change which, either individually or, if there were previous changes, cumulatively with those changes, is equal to or exceeds 40 percent of any numerical criterion in subparagraphs (b)1.-13.1.-15., but which does not exceed such criterion, shall be presumed not to create a substantial deviation subject to further development-of-regional-impact review. The presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence at the public hearing held by the local government pursuant to subparagraph (f)5.
- 2. Except for a development order rendered pursuant to subsection (22) or subsection (25), a proposed change to a development order that individually or cumulatively with any previous change is less than 40 percent of any numerical criterion contained in subparagraphs (b)1.-13.1.-15.and does not exceed any other criterion, or that involves an extension of the buildout date of a development, or any phase thereof, of less than 5 years is not subject to the public hearing requirements of subparagraph (f)3., and is not subject to a determination pursuant to subparagraph (f)5. Notice of the proposed change shall be made to the regional planning council and the state land planning agency. Such notice shall include a description of previous individual changes made to the development, including changes previously approved by the local government, and shall include appropriate amendments to the development order. The following changes, individually or cumulatively with any previous changes, are not substantial deviations:

- Changes in the name of the project, developer, a. owner, or monitoring official.
- Changes to a setback that do not affect noise buffers, environmental protection or mitigation areas, or archaeological or historical resources.
 - c. Changes to minimum lot sizes.
- Changes in the configuration of internal roads that do not affect external access points.
- Changes to the building design or orientation that stay approximately within the approved area designated for such building and parking lot, and which do not affect historical buildings designated as significant by the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State.
- Changes to increase the acreage in the development, provided that no development is proposed on the acreage to be added.
- Changes to eliminate an approved land use, provided q. that there are no additional regional impacts.
- Changes required to conform to permits approved by any federal, state, or regional permitting agency, provided that these changes do not create additional regional impacts.
- Any other change which the state land planning agency agrees in writing is similar in nature, impact, or character to the changes enumerated in sub-subparagraphs a.-h. and which does not create the likelihood of any additional regional impact.

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This subsection does not require a development order amendment for any change listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-i. unless such issue is addressed either in the existing development order or 31 in the application for development approval, but, in the case

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of the application, only if, and in the manner in which, the application is incorporated in the development order.

- Except for the change authorized by sub-subparagraph 2.f., any addition of land not previously reviewed or any change not specified in paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) shall be presumed to create a substantial deviation. This presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence.
- 4. Any submittal of a proposed change to a previously approved development shall include a description of individual changes previously made to the development, including changes previously approved by the local government. The local government shall consider the previous and current proposed changes in deciding whether such changes cumulatively constitute a substantial deviation requiring further development-of-regional-impact review.
- The following changes to an approved development of regional impact shall be presumed to create a substantial deviation. Such presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence.
- a. A change proposed for 15 percent or more of the acreage to a land use not previously approved in the development order. Changes of less than 15 percent shall be presumed not to create a substantial deviation.
- b. Except for the types of uses listed in subparagraph (b)14.16., any change which would result in the development of any area which was specifically set aside in the application for development approval or in the development order for preservation, buffers, or special protection, including habitat for plant and animal species, archaeological and 31 | historical sites, dunes, and other special areas.

c. Notwithstanding any provision of paragraph (b) to the contrary, a proposed change consisting of simultaneous increases and decreases of at least two of the uses within an authorized multiuse development of regional impact which was originally approved with three or more uses specified in s. 380.0651(3)(b)(c),(c)(d),(e)(f), and (f)(g) and residential use.

(24) STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS. --

- (i) Any proposed facility for the storage of any petroleum product is exempt from the provisions of this section, if such facility is consistent with a local comprehensive plan that is in compliance with s. 163.3177 or is consistent with a comprehensive port master plan that is in compliance with s. 163.3178.
- (j) Any development or expansion of an airport or airport-related or aviation-related development is exempt from the provisions of this section.

Section 55. Subsection (3) of section 380.0651, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.0651 Statewide guidelines and standards.--

(3) The following statewide guidelines and standards shall be applied in the manner described in s. 380.06(2) to determine whether the following developments shall be required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review:

(a) Airports.--

- 1. Any of the following airport construction projects shall be a development of regional impact:
- a. A new commercial service or general aviation airport with paved runways.
- 30 b. A new commercial service or general aviation paved
 31 runway.

c. A new passenger terminal facility.

2. Lengthening of an existing runway by 25 percent or an increase in the number of gates by 25 percent or three gates, whichever is greater, on a commercial service airport or a general aviation airport with regularly scheduled flights is a development of regional impact. However, expansion of existing terminal facilities at a nonhub or small hub commercial service airport shall not be a development of regional impact.

3. Any airport development project which is proposed for safety, repair, or maintenance reasons alone and would not have the potential to increase or change existing types of aircraft activity is not a development of regional impact.

Notwithstanding subparagraphs 1. and 2., renovation, modernization, or replacement of airport airside or terminal facilities that may include increases in square footage of such facilities but does not increase the number of gates or change the existing types of aircraft activity is not a development of regional impact.

(a)(b) Attractions and recreation facilities.--Any sports, entertainment, amusement, or recreation facility, including, but not limited to, a sports arena, stadium, racetrack, tourist attraction, amusement park, or pari-mutuel facility, the construction or expansion of which:

- 1. For single performance facilities:
- a. Provides parking spaces for more than 2,500 cars;
- b. Provides more than 10,000 permanent seats for spectators.
 - 2. For serial performance facilities:

a. Provides parking spaces for more than 1,000 cars; or

b. Provides more than 4,000 permanent seats for spectators.

For purposes of this subsection, "serial performance facilities" means those using their parking areas or permanent seating more than one time per day on a regular or continuous basis.

- 3. For multiscreen movie theaters of at least 8 screens and 2,500 seats:
- a. Provides parking spaces for more than 1,500 cars; or
- b. Provides more than 6,000 permanent seats for spectators.

(b)(c) Industrial plants, industrial parks, and distribution, warehousing or wholesaling facilities.—Any proposed industrial, manufacturing, or processing plant, or distribution, warehousing, or wholesaling facility, excluding wholesaling developments which deal primarily with the general public onsite, under common ownership, or any proposed industrial, manufacturing, or processing activity or distribution, warehousing, or wholesaling activity, excluding wholesaling activities which deal primarily with the general public onsite, which:

- 1. Provides parking for more than 2,500 motor vehicles, excluding those vehicles which may be included in wholesaling facilities' inventory; or
- 2. Occupies a site greater than 320 acres, or for motor vehicle wholesaling facilities that conduct wholesaling

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sales activity no more frequently than an average each year of 3 days per week, occupies a site greater than 500 acres.

(c) (d) Office development. -- Any proposed office building or park operated under common ownership, development plan, or management that:

- 1. Encompasses 300,000 or more square feet of gross floor area; or
 - Has a total site size of 30 or more acres; or
- Encompasses more than 600,000 square feet of gross floor area in a county with a population greater than 500,000 and only in a geographic area specifically designated as highly suitable for increased threshold intensity in the approved local comprehensive plan and in the strategic regional policy plan.
- (d) (e) Port facilities. -- The proposed construction of any waterport or marina is required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review, except one designed for:
- The wet storage or mooring of fewer than 150 watercraft used exclusively for sport, pleasure, or commercial fishing, or
- b. The dry storage of fewer than 200 watercraft used exclusively for sport, pleasure, or commercial fishing, or
- The wet or dry storage or mooring of fewer than 150 watercraft on or adjacent to an inland freshwater lake except Lake Okeechobee or any lake which has been designated an Outstanding Florida Water, or
- The wet or dry storage or mooring of fewer than 50 watercraft of 40 feet in length or less of any type or purpose. The exceptions to this paragraph's requirements for 31 development-of-regional-impact review shall not apply to any

waterport or marina facility located within or which serves physical development located within a coastal barrier resource unit on an unbridged barrier island designated pursuant to 16 U.S.C. s. 3501.

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In addition to the foregoing, for projects for which no environmental resource permit or sovereign submerged land lease is required, the Department of Environmental Protection must determine in writing that a proposed marina in excess of 10 slips or storage spaces or a combination of the two is located so that it will not adversely impact Outstanding Florida Waters or Class II waters and will not contribute boat traffic in a manner that will have an adverse impact on an area known to be, or likely to be, frequented by manatees. If the Department of Environmental Protection fails to issue its determination within 45 days of receipt of a formal written request, it has waived its authority to make such determination. The Department of Environmental Protection determination shall constitute final agency action pursuant to chapter 120.

- The dry storage of fewer than 300 watercraft used exclusively for sport, pleasure, or commercial fishing at a marina constructed and in operation prior to July 1, 1985.
- 3. Any proposed marina development with both wet and dry mooring or storage used exclusively for sport, pleasure, or commercial fishing, where the sum of percentages of the applicable wet and dry mooring or storage thresholds equals 100 percent. This threshold is in addition to, and does not preclude, a development from being required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review under sub-subparagraphs 31 1.a. and b. and subparagraph 2.

(e)(f) Retail and service development.--Any proposed retail, service, or wholesale business establishment or group of establishments which deals primarily with the general public onsite, operated under one common property ownership, development plan, or management that:

area;

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2. Occupies more than 40 acres of land; or Provides parking spaces for more than 2,500 cars.

Encompasses more than 400,000 square feet of gross

(f)(g) Hotel or motel development.--

- Any proposed hotel or motel development that is planned to create or accommodate 350 or more units; or
- Any proposed hotel or motel development that is planned to create or accommodate 750 or more units, in a county with a population greater than 500,000, and only in a geographic area specifically designated as highly suitable for increased threshold intensity in the approved local comprehensive plan and in the strategic regional policy plan.

(g)(h) Recreational vehicle development.--Any proposed recreational vehicle development planned to create or accommodate 500 or more spaces.

(h)(i) Multiuse development. -- Any proposed development with two or more land uses where the sum of the percentages of the appropriate thresholds identified in chapter 28-24, Florida Administrative Code, or this section for each land use in the development is equal to or greater than 145 percent. Any proposed development with three or more land uses, one of which is residential and contains at least 100 dwelling units or 15 percent of the applicable residential threshold, whichever is greater, where the sum of the percentages of the 31 appropriate thresholds identified in chapter 28-24, Florida

Administrative Code, or this section for each land use in the development is equal to or greater than 160 percent. This threshold is in addition to, and does not preclude, a development from being required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review under any other threshold.

(j) Residential development. -- No rule may be adopted concerning residential developments which treats a residential development in one county as being located in a less populated adjacent county unless more than 25 percent of the development is located within 2 or less miles of the less populated adjacent county.

(i)(k) Schools.--

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- The proposed construction of any public, private, or proprietary postsecondary educational campus which provides for a design population of more than 5,000 full-time equivalent students, or the proposed physical expansion of any public, private, or proprietary postsecondary educational campus having such a design population that would increase the population by at least 20 percent of the design population.
- 2. As used in this paragraph, "full-time equivalent student" means enrollment for 15 or more quarter hours during a single academic semester. In area vocational schools or other institutions which do not employ semester hours or quarter hours in accounting for student participation, enrollment for 18 contact hours shall be considered equivalent to one quarter hour, and enrollment for 27 contact hours shall be considered equivalent to one semester hour.
- This paragraph does not apply to institutions which are the subject of a campus master plan adopted by the Board 31 of Regents pursuant to s. 240.155.

Section 56. Paragraph (a) of subsection (12) of section 163.3180, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.3180 Concurrency.--

- (12) When authorized by a local comprehensive plan, a multiuse development of regional impact may satisfy the transportation concurrency requirements of the local comprehensive plan, the local government's concurrency management system, and s. 380.06 by payment of a proportionate-share contribution for local and regionally significant traffic impacts, if:
- (a) The development of regional impact meets or exceeds the guidelines and standards of s. 380.0651(3)(h)(i) and rule 28-24.032(2), Florida Administrative Code, and includes a residential component that contains at least 100 residential dwelling units or 15 percent of the applicable residential guideline and standard, whichever is greater;

The proportionate-share contribution may be applied to any transportation facility to satisfy the provisions of this subsection and the local comprehensive plan, but, for the purposes of this subsection, the amount of the proportionate-share contribution shall be calculated based upon the cumulative number of trips from the proposed development expected to reach roadways during the peak hour from the complete buildout of a stage or phase being approved, divided by the change in the peak hour maximum service volume of roadways resulting from construction of an improvement necessary to maintain the adopted level of service, multiplied by the construction cost, at the time of developer payment, of the improvement necessary to maintain the adopted level of

service. For purposes of this subsection, "construction cost" includes all associated costs of the improvement.

Section 57. Subsection (20) of section 331.303, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

331.303 Definitions.--

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(20) "Spaceport launch facilities" shall be defined as industrial facilities in accordance with s. 380.0651(3)(b)(c)and include any launch pad, launch control center, and fixed launch-support equipment.

Section 58. (1) Nothing contained in this act abridges or modifies any vested or other right or any duty or obligation pursuant to any development order or agreement which is applicable to a development of regional impact on the effective date of this act. An airport or petroleum storage facility which has received a development-of-regional-impact development order pursuant to s. 380.06, Florida Statutes 2000, but is no longer required to undergo development-of-regional-impact review by operation of this act, shall be governed by the following procedures:

- (a) The development shall continue to be governed by the development-of-regional-impact development order, and may be completed in reliance upon and pursuant to the development order. The development-of-regional-impact development order may be enforced by the local government as provided by ss. 380.06(17) and 380.11, Florida Statutes 2000.
- (b) If requested by the developer or landowner, the development-of-regional-impact development order may be amended or rescinded by the local government consistent with the local comprehensive plan and land development regulations and pursuant to the local government procedures governing 31 local development orders.

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(2) An airport or petroleum storage facility with an application for development approval pending on the effective date of this act, or a notification of proposed change pending on the effective date of this act, may elect to continue such review pursuant to s. 380.06, Florida Statutes 2000. At the conclusion of the pending review, including any appeals pursuant to s. 380.07, Florida Statutes 2000, the resulting development order shall be governed by the provisions of subsection (1).

Section 59. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared severable.

Section 60. Subsection (13) is added to section 475.011, Florida Statutes, to read:

475.011 Exemptions. -- This part does not apply to:

(13) Any firm that is under contract with a state or local governmental entity to provide right-of-way acquisition services for property subject to condemnation, or any employee of such a firm, if the compensation for such services is not based upon the value of the property acquired.

Section 61. Subsection (2) of section 479.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

479.15 Harmony of regulations.--

(2) A municipality, county, local zoning authority, or other local governmental entity may not remove, or cause to be removed, any lawfully erected sign along any portion of the interstate or federal-aid primary highway system without first 31 paying just compensation for such removal. A local

governmental entity may not cause in any way the alteration of 1 any lawfully erected sign located along any portion of the 3 interstate or federal-aid primary highway system without payment of just compensation if such alteration constitutes a 4 5 taking under state law. The municipality, county, local zoning authority, or other local government entity promulgating 6 7 requirements for such alteration must be responsible for 8 payment of just compensation to the sign owner if such alteration constitutes a taking under state law. This 9 subsection applies only to a lawfully erected sign the subject 10 11 matter of which relates to premises other than the premises on 12 which it is located or to merchandise, services, activities, 13 or entertainment not sold, produced, manufactured, or 14 furnished on the premises on which the sign is located. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "federal-aid primary 15 16 highway system" means the federal-aid primary highway system 17 in existence on June 1, 1991, and any highway which was not on such system but which is, or hereafter becomes, a part of the 18 National Highway System. This subsection shall not be 19 20 interpreted as explicit or implicit legislative recognition 21 that alterations do or do not constitute a taking under state 22 law. 23 Section 62. Section 479.25, Florida Statutes, is

created to read:

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479.25 Application of chapter.--Nothing in this chapter shall prevent a governmental entity from entering into an agreement allowing the height above ground level of a lawfully erected sign to be increased at its permitted location if a noise attenuation barrier, visibility screen, or other highway improvement has been erected in such a way as to screen or block visibility of such a sign; provided, however,

that for nonconforming signs located on the federal-aid 1 primary highway system, as such system existed on June 1, 2 3 1991, and any highway which was not on such system but which is, or hereinafter becomes, a part of the National Highway 4 5 System, such agreement must be approved by the Federal Highway 6 Administration. Any increase in height permitted under this 7 provision shall only be that which is required to achieve the 8 same degree of visibility from the right-of-way that the sign had prior to the construction of the noise attenuation 9 barrier, visibility screen, or other highway improvement. 10 11 Section 63. Section 70.20, Florida Statutes, is 12 created to read: 13 70.20 Balancing of interests.--It is a policy of this 14 state to encourage municipalities, counties, and other 15 governmental entities and sign owners to enter into relocation 16 and reconstruction agreements that allow governmental entities to undertake public projects and accomplish public goals 17 without the expenditure of public funds, while allowing the 18 19 continued maintenance of private investment in signage as a 20 medium of commercial and noncommercial communication. (1) Municipalities, counties, and all other 21 governmental entities are specifically empowered to enter into 22 relocation and reconstruction agreements on whatever terms are 23 agreeable to the sign owner and the municipality, county, or 24 other governmental entity involved and to provide for 25 26 relocation and reconstruction of signs by agreement, ordinance, or resolution. As used in this section, a 27 28 "relocation and reconstruction agreement" means a consensual, contractual agreement between a sign owner and municipality, 29 county, or other governmental entity for either the 30 reconstruction of an existing sign or removal of a sign and

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the construction of a new sign to substitute for the sign removed.

- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no municipality, county, or other governmental entity may remove, or cause to be removed, any lawfully erected sign along any portion of the interstate, federal-aid primary or other highway system, or any other road, without first paying just compensation for such removal as determined by agreement between the parties or through eminent domain proceedings. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no municipality, county, or other governmental entity may cause in any way the alteration of any lawfully erected sign located along any portion of the interstate, federal-aid primary or other highway system, or any other road, without first paying just compensation for such alteration as determined by agreement between the parties or through eminent domain proceedings. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any ordinance, the validity, constitutionality, and enforceability of which the owner has by written agreement waived all right to challenge.
- (3) In the event that a municipality, county, or other governmental entity shall undertake a public project or public goal requiring alteration or removal of any lawfully erected sign, the municipality, county, or other governmental entity shall notify the owner of the affected sign in writing of the public project or goal and of the intention of the municipality, county, or other governmental entity to seek such removal. Within 30 days after receipt of the notice, the owner of the sign and the municipality, county, or other governmental entity shall attempt to meet for purposes of negotiating and executing a relocation and reconstruction agreement provided for in subsection (1).

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- (4) If the parties fail to enter into a relocation and reconstruction agreement within 120 days after the initial notification by the municipality, county, or other governmental entity, either party may request mandatory nonbinding arbitration to resolve the disagreements among the parties. Each party shall select an arbitrator, and the individuals so selected shall choose a third arbitrator. three arbitrators shall constitute the panel that shall arbitrate the dispute between the parties and at the conclusion of the proceedings shall present to the parties a proposed relocation and reconstruction agreement that the panel believes equitably balances the rights, interests, obligations, and reasonable expectations of the parties. If the municipality, county, or other governmental entity and the sign owner accept the proposed relocation and reconstruction agreement, the municipality, county, or other governmental entity and sign owner shall each pay its respective costs of arbitration and shall pay one-half of the costs of the arbitration panel, unless the parties otherwise agree.
- (5) If the parties do not enter into a relocation and reconstruction agreement, the municipality, county, or other governmental entity may proceed with the public project or purpose and the alteration or removal of the sign only after first paying just compensation for such alteration or removal as determined by agreement between the parties or through eminent domain proceedings.
- (6) The requirement by a municipality, county, or other governmental entity that a lawfully erected sign be removed or altered as a condition precedent to the issuance or continued effectiveness of a development order constitutes a compelled removal that is prohibited without prior payment of

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just compensation under subsection (2). This subsection does not apply when the owner of the land on which the sign is located is seeking to have the property redesignated on the future land use map of the applicable comprehensive plan for exclusively single-family residential use.

- (7) The requirement by a municipality, county, or other governmental entity that a lawfully erected sign be altered or removed from the premises upon which it is located incident to the voluntary acquisition of such property by a municipality, county, or other governmental entity constitutes a compelled removal which is prohibited without payment of just compensation under subsection (2).
- (8) Nothing in this section shall prevent a municipality, county, or other governmental entity from acquiring a lawfully erected sign through eminent domain or from prospectively regulating the placement, size, height, or other aspects of new signs within such entity's jurisdiction, including the prohibition of new signs, unless otherwise authorized pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall impair any ordinance or provision of any ordinance not inconsistent with this section, nor shall this section create any new rights for any party other than the owner of a sign, the owner of the land upon which it is located, or a municipality, county, or other governmental entity as expressed in this section.
- (9) This section applies only to a lawfully erected sign the subject matter of which relates to premises other than the premises on which it is located or to merchandise, services, activities, or entertainment not sold, produced, manufactured, or furnished on the premises on which the sign is located.

(10) This section does not apply to any actions taken 1 2 by the Florida Department of Transportation which relate to the operation, maintenance, or expansion of transportation 3 4 facilities, and this section does not affect existing law regarding eminent domain relating to the Florida Department of 5 6 Transportation. 7 (11) Nothing in this act shall impair or affect any 8 written agreement existing prior to the effective date of this 9 act, including, but not limited to, any settlement agreements reliant upon the legality or enforceability of local 10 ordinances. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any 11 12 dispute between a municipality or county and a sign owner 13 where the amortization period has expired and judicial proceedings were commenced on or before May 1, 1997, to 14 15 determine the rights, interests, obligations and reasonable 16 expectations of the parties to the dispute, nor shall the provisions of this act apply to any signs that are required to 17 be removed by a date certain in areas designated by local 18 19 ordinance as view corridors if the local ordinance creating 20 the view corridors was enacted in part to effectuate a consensual agreement between the local government and two or 21 more sign owners prior to the effective date of this act. 22 23 (12) The provisions of this section shall not apply 24 until July 1, 2002, to any dispute between a municipality or county and a sign owner where the amortization period has 25 26 expired and judicial proceedings are pending and the dispute is not otherwise exempt by subsection (11). 27 28 Section 64. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 496.425, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 29 30 496.425 Solicitation of funds within public

transportation facilities .--

(1) As used in this section:

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"Facility" means any public transportation facility, including, but not limited to, railroad stations, bus stations, ship ports, ferry terminals, or roadside welcome stations, highway service plazas, airports served by scheduled passenger service, or highway rest stations.

Section 65. Section 496.4256, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

496.4256 Public transportation facilities not required to grant permit or access. -- A governmental entity or authority that owns or operates welcome centers, wayside parks, service plazas, or rest areas on the state highway system as defined in chapter 335 may not be required to issue a permit or grant any person access to such public transportation facilities for the purpose of soliciting funds.

Section 66. Section 337.408, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.408 Regulation of benches, transit shelters, street light poles, and waste disposal receptacles within rights-of-way.--

(1) Benches or transit shelters, including advertising displayed on benches or transit shelters, may be installed within the right-of-way limits of any municipal, county, or state road, except a limited access highway; provided that such benches or transit shelters are for the comfort or convenience of the general public, or at designated stops on official bus routes; and, provided further, that written authorization has been given to a qualified private supplier of such service by the municipal government within whose incorporated limits such benches or transit shelters are 31 installed, or by the county government within whose

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unincorporated limits such benches or transit shelters are installed. A municipality or county may authorize the installation, with or without public bid, of benches and transit shelters together with advertising displayed thereon, within the right-of-way limits of such roads. Any contract for the installation of benches or transit shelters or advertising on benches or transit shelters which was entered into before April 8, 1992, without public bidding, is ratified and affirmed. Such benches or transit shelters may not interfere with right-of-way preservation and maintenance. Any bench or transit shelter located on a sidewalk within the right-of-way limits of any road on the State Highway System or the county road system shall be located so as to leave at least 36 inches clearance for pedestrians and persons in wheelchairs. Such clearance shall be measured in a direction perpendicular to the centerline of the road.

- container volume of which is less than 110 gallons in capacity, including advertising displayed on such waste disposal receptacles, may be installed within the right-of-way limits of any municipal, county, or state road, except a limited access highway; provided that written authorization has been given to a qualified private supplier of such service by the appropriate municipal or county government. A municipality or county may authorize the installation, with or without public bid, of waste disposal receptacles together with advertising displayed thereon within the right-of-way limits of such roads. Such waste disposal receptacles may not interfere with right-of-way preservation and maintenance.
- (3) The department has the authority to direct the immediate relocation or removal of any bench, transit shelter,

or waste disposal receptacle which endangers life or property, except that transit bus benches which have been placed in service prior to April 1, 1992, do not have to comply with bench size and advertising display size requirements which have been established by the department prior to March 1, 1992. Any transit bus bench that was in service prior to April 1, 1992, may be replaced with a bus bench of the same size or smaller, if the bench is damaged or destroyed or otherwise becomes unusable. As of July 1, 2001, the department, municipality, or county may direct the removal of any bench, transit shelter, or waste disposal receptacle, or advertisement thereon, if the department, municipality, or county determines that the bench, transit shelter, or waste disposal receptacle is structurally unsound or in visible disrepair.

- (4) No bench, transit shelter, or waste disposal receptacle, or advertising thereon, shall be erected or so placed on the right-of-way of any road which conflicts with the requirements of federal law, regulations, or safety standards, thereby causing the state or any political subdivision the loss of federal funds. Competition among persons seeking to provide bench, transit shelter, or waste disposal receptacle services or advertising on such benches, shelters, or receptacles may be regulated, restricted, or denied by the appropriate local government entity consistent with the provisions of this section.
- (5) Street light poles, including attached public service messages and advertisements, may be located within the right-of-way limits of municipal and county roads in the same manner as benches, transit shelters, and waste receptacles, as provided in this section and in accordance with municipal and

 county ordinances. Public service messages and advertising may be installed on street light poles on roads on the State Highway System in accordance with height, size, setback, spacing distance, duration of display, safety, traffic control, and permitting requirements established by administrative rule of the Department of Transportation. The department shall have authority to establish administrative rules to implement this subsection. No advertising on light poles shall be permitted on the Interstate Highway System. No permanent structures carrying advertisements attached to light poles shall be permitted on the National Highway System.

(6) (5) Wherever the provisions of this section are inconsistent with other provisions of this chapter or with the provisions of chapter 125, chapter 335, chapter 336, or chapter 479, the provisions of this section shall prevail.

Section 67. Subsection (10) of section 768.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

768.28 Waiver of sovereign immunity in tort actions; recovery limits; limitation on attorney fees; statute of limitations; exclusions; indemnification; risk management programs.--

(10)(a) Health care providers or vendors, or any of their employees or agents, that have contractually agreed to act as agents of the Department of Corrections to provide health care services to inmates of the state correctional system shall be considered agents of the State of Florida, Department of Corrections, for the purposes of this section, while acting within the scope of and pursuant to guidelines established in said contract or by rule. The contracts shall provide for the indemnification of the state by the agent for

any liabilities incurred up to the limits set out in this chapter.

- (b) This subsection shall not be construed as designating persons providing contracted health care services to inmates as employees or agents of the state for the purposes of chapter 440.
- (c) For purposes of this section, regional poison control centers created in accordance with s. 395.1027 and coordinated and supervised under the Division of Children's Medical Services Prevention and Intervention of the Department of Health, or any of their employees or agents, shall be considered agents of the State of Florida, Department of Health. Any contracts with poison control centers must provide, to the extent permitted by law, for the indemnification of the state by the agency for any liabilities incurred up to the limits set out in this chapter.
- (d) For the purposes of this section, operators of rail services and providers of security for rail services, or any of their employees or agents, that have contractually agreed to act as agents of the Tri-County Commuter Rail Authority to operate rail services or provide security for rail services, shall be considered agents of the State of Florida while acting within the scope of and pursuant to guidelines established in said contract or by rule. The contract shall provide for the indemnification of the state by the agent for any liability incurred up to the limits set out in this chapter.

Section 68. Section 337.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.025 Innovative highway projects; department to establish program. -- The department is authorized to establish

a program for highway projects demonstrating innovative techniques of highway construction, maintenance, and finance 3 which have the intended effect of controlling time and cost increases on construction projects. Such techniques may 4 5 include, but are not limited to, state-of-the-art technology for pavement, safety, and other aspects of highway 6 7 construction and maintenance; innovative bidding and financing 8 techniques; accelerated construction procedures; and those techniques that have the potential to reduce project life 9 10 cycle costs. To the maximum extent practical, the department 11 must use the existing process to award and administer construction and maintenance contracts. When specific 12 13 innovative techniques are to be used, the department is not 14 required to adhere to those provisions of law that would prevent, preclude, or in any way prohibit the department from 15 16 using the innovative technique. However, prior to using an innovative technique that is inconsistent with another 17 provision of law, the department must document in writing the 18 need for the exception and identify what benefits the 19 20 traveling public and the affected community are anticipated to 21 receive. The department may enter into no more than \$120 22 million in contracts annually for the purposes authorized by this section. However, the annual cap on contracts provided in 23 this section shall not apply to turnpike enterprise projects 24 nor shall turnpike enterprise projects be counted toward the 25 26 department's annual cap. 27 Section 69. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 28 337.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 29 337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids; 30 emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders;

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combined design and construction contracts; progress payments;
records; requirements of vehicle registration.--

(3)

 (c) No advertisement for bids shall be published and no bid solicitation notice shall be provided until title to all necessary rights-of-way and easements for the construction of the project covered by such advertisement or notice has vested in the state or a local governmental entity, and all railroad crossing and utility agreements have been executed. The turnpike enterprise is exempt from this paragraph for a turnpike enterprise project. Title to all necessary rights-of-way shall be deemed to have been vested in the State of Florida when such title has been dedicated to the public or acquired by prescription.

Section 70. Subsection (7) of section 338.165, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.165 Continuation of tolls.--

(7) This section does not apply to the turnpike system as defined under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law.

Section 71. Section 338.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.22 Florida Turnpike <u>Enterprise</u> Law; short title.--Sections 338.22-338.241 may be cited as the "Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law."

Section 72. Section 338.221, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.221 Definitions of terms used in ss.
338.22-338.241.--As used in ss. 338.22-338.241, the following words and terms have the following meanings, unless the context indicates another or different meaning or intent:

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- (1) "Bonds" or "revenue bonds" means notes, bonds, refunding bonds or other evidences of indebtedness or obligations, in either temporary or definitive form, issued by the Division of Bond Finance on behalf of the department and authorized under the provisions of ss. 338.22-338.241 and the State Bond Act.
- (2) "Cost," as applied to a turnpike project, includes the cost of acquisition of all land, rights-of-way, property, easements, and interests acquired by the department for turnpike project construction; the cost of such construction; the cost of all machinery and equipment, financing charges, fees, and expenses related to the financing; establishment of reserves to secure bonds; interest prior to and during construction and for such period after completion of construction as shall be determined by the department; the cost of traffic estimates and of engineering and legal expenses, plans, specifications, surveys, estimates of cost and revenues; other expenses necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or practicability of acquiring or constructing any such turnpike project; administrative expenses; and such other expenses as may be necessary or incident to the acquisition or construction of a turnpike project, the financing of such acquisition or construction, and the placing of the turnpike project in operation.
- (3) "Feeder road" means any road no more than 5 miles in length, connecting to the turnpike system which the department determines is necessary to create or facilitate access to a turnpike project.
- (4) "Owner" includes any person or any governmental entity that has title to, or an interest in, any property,

right, easement, or interest authorized to be acquired pursuant to ss. 338.22-338.241.

- (5) "Revenues" means all tolls, charges, rentals, gifts, grants, moneys, and other funds coming into the possession, or under the control, of the department by virtue of the provisions hereof, except the proceeds from the sale of bonds issued under ss. 338.22-338.241.
- (6) "Turnpike system" means those limited access toll highways and associated feeder roads and other structures, appurtenances, or rights previously designated, acquired, or constructed pursuant to the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law and such other additional turnpike projects as may be acquired or constructed as approved by the Legislature.
- (7) "Turnpike improvement" means any betterment necessary or desirable for the operation of the turnpike system, including, but not limited to, widenings, the addition of interchanges to the existing turnpike system, resurfacings, toll plazas, machinery, and equipment.
- (8) "Economically feasible" for a proposed turnpike project means that the revenues of the project in combination with those of the existing turnpike system are sufficient to service the debt of the outstanding turnpike bonds to safeguard investors.÷
- (a) For a proposed turnpike project, that, as determined by the department before the issuance of revenue bonds for the project, the estimated net revenues of the proposed turnpike project, excluding feeder roads and turnpike improvements, will be sufficient to pay at least 50 percent of the debt service on the bonds by the end of the 5th year of operation and to pay at least 100 percent of the debt service on the bonds by the end of the 15th year of operation. In

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implementing this paragraph, up to 50 percent of the adopted work program costs of the project may be funded from turnpike revenues.

(b) For turnpike projects, except for feeder roads and turnpike improvements, financed from revenues of the turnpike system, such project, or such group of projects, originally financed from revenues of the turnpike system, that the project is expected to generate sufficient revenues to amortize project costs within 15 years of opening to traffic.

This subsection does not prohibit the pledging of revenues from the entire turnpike system to bonds issued to finance or refinance a turnpike project or group of turnpike projects.

- "Turnpike project" means any extension to or expansion of the existing turnpike system and new limited access toll highways and associated feeder roads and other structures, interchanges, appurtenances, or rights as may be approved in accordance with the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law.
- (10) "Statement of environmental feasibility" means a statement by the Department of Environmental Protection of the project's significant environmental impacts.

Section 73. Section 338.2215, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

338.2215 Florida Turnpike Enterprise; legislative findings, policy, purpose, and intent. -- It is the intent of the Legislature that the turnpike enterprise be provided additional powers and authority in order to maximize the advantages obtainable through fully leveraging the Florida Turnpike System asset. The additional powers and authority will provide the turnpike enterprise with the autonomy and

flexibility to enable it to more easily pursue innovations as 1 2 well as best practices found in the private sector in management, finance, organization, and operations. The 3 additional powers and authority are intended to improve 4 5 cost-effectiveness and timeliness of project delivery, 6 increase revenues, expand the turnpike system's capital 7 program capability, and improve the quality of service to its 8 patrons, while continuing to protect the turnpike system's bondholders and further preserve, expand, and improve the 9 10 Florida Turnpike System. 11 Section 74. Section 338.2216, Florida Statutes, is 12 created to read: 13 338.2216 Florida Turnpike Enterprise; powers and 14 authority.--15 (1)(a) In addition to the powers granted to the 16 department, the Florida Turnpike Enterprise has full authority 17 to exercise all powers granted to it under this chapter. Powers shall include, but are not limited to, the ability to 18 19 plan, construct, maintain, repair, and operate the Florida 20 Turnpike System. (b) It is the express intention of this part that the 21 Florida Turnpike Enterprise be authorized to plan, develop, 22 23 own, purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire, demolish, 24 construct, improve, relocate, equip, repair, maintain, 25 operate, and manage the Florida Turnpike System; to expend 26 funds to publicize, advertise, and promote the advantages of 27 using the turnpike system and its facilities; and to 28 cooperate, coordinate, partner, and contract with other entities, public and private, to accomplish these purposes. 29 (c) The executive director of the turnpike enterprise 30

chapter 110. The fiscal functions of the turnpike enterprise, including those arising under chapters 216, 334, and 339, shall be managed by the turnpike enterprise chief financial officer, who shall possess qualifications similar to those of the department comptroller.

(2)(a) The department shall have the authority to employ procurement methods available to the Department of Management Services under chapters 255 and 287 and under any rule adopted under such chapters solely for the benefit of the turnpike enterprise. In order to enhance the effective and efficient operation of the turnpike enterprise, the department may adopt rules for procurement procedures alternative to chapters 255, 287, and 337.

(3)(a) The turnpike enterprise shall be a single budget entity and shall develop a budget pursuant to chapter 216. The turnpike enterprise's budget shall be submitted to the Legislature along with the department's budget.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 to the contrary and in accordance with s. 216.351, the Executive Office of the Governor shall, on July 1 of each year, certify forward all unexpended funds appropriated or provided pursuant to this section for the turnpike enterprise. Of the unexpended funds certified forward, any unencumbered amounts shall be carried forward. Such funds carried forward shall not exceed 5 percent of the total operating budget of the turnpike enterprise. Funds carried forward pursuant to this section may be used for any lawful purpose, including, but not limited to, promotional and market activities, technology, training, and salary bonuses. Any certified forward funds remaining undisbursed on December 31 of each year shall be carried forward.

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The powers conferred upon the turnpike enterprise under ss. 338.22-338.241 shall be in addition and supplemental to the existing powers of the department and the turnpike enterprise, and these powers shall not be construed as repealing any provision of any other law, general or local, but shall supersede such other laws that are inconsistent with the exercise of the powers provided under ss. 338.22-338.241 and provide a complete method for the exercise of such powers granted.

Section 75. Subsection (4) of section 338.223, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.223 Proposed turnpike projects.--

(4) The department is authorized, with the approval of the Legislature, to use federal and state transportation funds to lend or pay a portion of the operating, maintenance, and capital costs of turnpike projects. Federal and state transportation funds included in an adopted work program, or the General Appropriations Act, for a turnpike project do not have to be reimbursed to the State Transportation Trust Fund, or used in determining the economic feasibility of the proposed project. For operating and maintenance loans, the maximum net loan amount in any fiscal year shall not exceed $1.5 \, \frac{0.5}{0.5}$ percent of state transportation tax revenues for that fiscal year.

Section 76. Subsection (2) of section 338.227, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.227 Turnpike revenue bonds.--

(2) The proceeds of the bonds of each issue shall be used solely for the payment of the cost of the turnpike projects for which such bonds shall have been issued, except 31 as provided in the State Bond Act. Such proceeds shall be

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disbursed and used as provided by ss. 338.22-338.241 and in such manner and under such restrictions, if any, as the Division of Bond Finance may provide in the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or in the trust agreement hereinafter mentioned securing the same. All revenues and bond proceeds from the turnpike system received by the department pursuant to ss. 338.22-338.241, the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law, shall be used only for the cost of turnpike projects and turnpike improvements and for the administration, operation, maintenance, and financing of the turnpike system. No revenues or bond proceeds from the turnpike system shall be spent for the operation, maintenance, construction, or financing of any project which is not part of the turnpike system.

Section 77. Subsection (2) of section 338.2275, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.2275 Approved turnpike projects.--

(2) The department is authorized to use turnpike revenues, the State Transportation Trust Fund moneys allocated for turnpike projects pursuant to s. 338.001, federal funds, and bond proceeds, and shall use the most cost-efficient combination of such funds, in developing a financial plan for funding turnpike projects. The department must submit a report of the estimated cost for each ongoing turnpike project and for each planned project to the Legislature 14 days before the convening of the regular legislative session. Verification of economic feasibility and statements of environmental feasibility for individual turnpike projects must be based on the entire project as approved. Statements of environmental feasibility are not required for those projects listed in s. 31 | 12, chapter 90-136, Laws of Florida, for which the Project

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Development and Environmental Reports were completed by July 1, 1990. All required environmental permits must be obtained before The department may advertise for bids for contracts for the construction of any turnpike project prior to obtaining required environmental permits.

Section 78. Section 338.234, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.234 Granting concessions or selling along the turnpike system. --

(1) The department may enter into contracts or licenses with any person for the sale of grant concessions or sell services or products or business opportunities on along the turnpike system, or the turnpike enterprise may sell services, products, or business opportunities on the turnpike system, which benefit the traveling public or provide additional revenue to the turnpike system. Services, business opportunities, and products authorized to be sold include, but are not limited to, the sale of motor fuel, vehicle towing, and vehicle maintenance services; the sale of food with attendant nonalcoholic beverages; lodging, meeting rooms, and other business services opportunities; advertising and other promotional opportunities, which advertising and promotions must be consistent with the dignity and integrity of the state; the sale of state lottery tickets sold by authorized retailers; games and amusements that the granting of concessions for amusement devices which operate by the application of skill, not including games of chance as defined in s. 849.16 or other illegal gambling games; the sale of Florida citrus, goods promoting the state, or handmade goods produced within the state; and the granting of concessions for 31 equipment which provides travel information, or tickets,

reservations, or other related services; and the granting of concessions which provide banking and other business services. The department may also provide information centers on the plazas for the benefit of the public.

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(2) The department may provide an opportunity for governmental agencies to hold public events at turnpike plazas which educate the traveling public as to safety, travel, and tourism.

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Section 79. Subsection (3) of section 338.235, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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338.235 Contracts with department for provision of services on the turnpike system.--

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(3) The department may enter into contracts or agreements, with or without competitive bidding or procurement, to make available, on a fair, reasonable, nonexclusive, and nondiscriminatory basis, turnpike property and other turnpike structures, for the placement of wireless facilities by any wireless provider of mobile services as defined in 47 U.S.C. s. 153(n) or s. 332(d), and any telecommunications company as defined in s. 364.02 when it is determined to be practical and feasible to make such property or structures available. The department may, without adopting a rule, charge a just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory fee for placement of the facilities, payable annually, based on the fair market value of space used by comparable communications facilities in the state. The department and a wireless provider may negotiate the reduction or elimination of a fee in consideration of goods or services service provided to the department by the wireless provider. All such fees collected by the department shall be deposited directly

into the State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund 1 2 and may be used to construct, maintain, or support the system. Section 80. Subsection (2) of section 338.239, Florida 3 4 Statutes, is amended to read: 5 338.239 Traffic control on the turnpike system.--6 (2) Members of the Florida Highway Patrol are vested 7 with the power, and charged with the duty, to enforce the 8 rules of the department. Approved expenditures Expenses incurred by the Florida Highway Patrol in carrying out its 9 powers and duties under ss. 338.22-338.241 may be treated as a 10 11 part of the cost of the operation of the turnpike system, and 12 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall be 13 reimbursed by the turnpike enterprise Department of 14 Transportation for such expenses incurred on the turnpike 15 system mainline, which is that part of the turnpike system 16 extending from the southern terminus in Florida City to the northern terminus in Wildwood including all contiguous 17 sections. Florida Highway Patrol Troop K shall be 18 19 headquartered with the turnpike enterprise and shall be the 20 official and preferred law enforcement troop for the turnpike system. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles 21 22 may, upon request of the executive director of the turnpike enterprise and approval of the Legislature, increase the 23 24 number of authorized positions for Troop K, or the executive 25 director of the turnpike enterprise may contract with the 26 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for additional

Section 81. Section 338.241, Florida Statutes, is

338.241 Cash reserve requirement. -- The budget for the

troops to patrol the turnpike system.

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amended to read:

reserve at the end of each fiscal year of not less than $\underline{5}$ $\underline{10}$ percent of the unpaid balance of all turnpike system contractual obligations, excluding bond obligations, to be paid from revenues.

Section 82. Section 338.251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.251 Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund.--The Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund is hereby created for the purpose of encouraging the development and enhancing the financial feasibility of revenue-producing road projects undertaken by local governmental entities in a county or combination of contiguous counties <u>and the turnpike enterprise</u>.

- (1) The department is authorized to advance funds for preliminary engineering, traffic and revenue studies, environmental impact studies, financial advisory services, engineering design, right-of-way map preparation, other appropriate project-related professional services, and advanced right-of-way acquisition to expressway authorities, the turnpike enterprise, counties, or other local governmental entities that desire to undertake revenue-producing road projects.
- (2) No funds shall be advanced pursuant to this section unless the following is documented to the department:
- (a) The proposed facility is consistent with the adopted transportation plan of the appropriate metropolitan planning organization and the Florida Transportation Plan.
- (b) A proposed 2-year budget detailing the use of the cash advance and a project schedule consistent with the budget.

- right-of-way acquisition, it shall be shown that such right-of-way will substantially appreciate prior to construction and that savings will result from its advance purchase. Any such request for moneys for advance right-of-way acquisition shall be accompanied by a preliminary engineering study, environmental impact study, traffic and revenue study, and right-of-way maps along with either a negotiated contract for purchase of the right-of-way, such contract to include a clause stating that it is subject to funding by the department or the Legislature, or an appraisal of the subject property for purpose of condemnation proceedings.
- (4) Each advance pursuant to this section shall require repayment out of the initial bond issue revenue or, at the discretion of the governmental entity or the turnpike enterprise of the facility, repayment shall begin no later than 7 years after the date of the advance, provided repayment shall be completed no later than 12 years after the date of the advance. However, such election shall be made at the time of the initial bond issue, and, if repayment is to be made during the time period referred to above, a schedule of such repayment shall be submitted to the department.
- (5) No amount in excess of \$1.5 million annually shall be advanced to any one governmental entity or the turnpike enterprise pursuant to this section without specific appropriation by the Legislature.
- (6) Funds may not be advanced for funding final design costs beyond 60 percent completion until an acceptable plan to finance all project costs, including the reimbursement of

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outstanding trust fund advances, is approved by the department.

- (7) The department may advance funds sufficient to defray shortages in toll revenues of facilities receiving funds pursuant to this section for the first 5 years of operation, up to a maximum of \$5 million per year, to be reimbursed to this fund within 5 years of the last advance hereunder. Any advance under this provision shall require specific appropriation by the Legislature.
- (8) No expressway authority, county, or other local governmental entity, or the turnpike enterprise, shall be eligible to receive any advance under this section if the expressway authority, county, or other local governmental entity or the turnpike enterprise has failed to repay any previous advances as required by law or by agreement with the department.
- (9) Repayment of funds advanced, including advances made prior to January 1, 1994, shall not include interest. However, interest accruing to local governmental entities and the turnpike enterprise from the investment of advances shall be paid to the department.

Section 83. Subsection (1) of section 553.80, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 86 of chapter 2000-141, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

553.80 Enforcement.--

(1) Except as provided in paragraphs(a)-(f) $\frac{(a)-(e)}{(a)}$, each local government and each legally constituted enforcement district with statutory authority shall regulate building construction and, where authorized in the state agency's enabling legislation, each state agency shall enforce the 31 | Florida Building Code required by this part on all public or

 private buildings, structures, and facilities, unless such responsibility has been delegated to another unit of government pursuant to s. 553.79(9).

- (a) Construction regulations relating to correctional facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice are to be enforced exclusively by those departments.
- (b) Construction regulations relating to elevator equipment under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Elevators of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall be enforced exclusively by that department.
- (c) In addition to the requirements of s. 553.79 and this section, facilities subject to the provisions of chapter 395 and part II of chapter 400 shall have facility plans reviewed and construction surveyed by the state agency authorized to do so under the requirements of chapter 395 and part II of chapter 400 and the certification requirements of the Federal Government.
- (d) Building plans approved pursuant to s. 553.77(6) and state-approved manufactured buildings, including buildings manufactured and assembled offsite and not intended for habitation, such as lawn storage buildings and storage sheds, are exempt from local code enforcing agency plan reviews except for provisions of the code relating to erection, assembly, or construction at the site. Erection, assembly, and construction at the site are subject to local permitting and inspections.
- (e) Construction regulations governing public schools, state universities, and community colleges shall be enforced as provided in subsection (6).

1 (f) Construction regulations relating to 2 transportation facilities under the jurisdiction of the 3 turnpike enterprise of the Department of Transportation shall 4 be enforced exclusively by the turnpike enterprise. 5 6 The governing bodies of local governments may provide a 7 schedule of fees, as authorized by s. 125.56(2) or s. 166.222 8 and this section, for the enforcement of the provisions of this part. Such fees shall be used solely for carrying out 9 the local government's responsibilities in enforcing the 10 Florida Building Code. The authority of state enforcing 11 agencies to set fees for enforcement shall be derived from 12 13 authority existing on July 1, 1998. However, nothing contained 14 in this subsection shall operate to limit such agencies from 15 adjusting their fee schedule in conformance with existing 16 authority. 17 Section 316.3027 and subsection (3) of Section 84. section 316.610, Florida Statutes, are repealed. 18 19 Section 85. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001. 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31